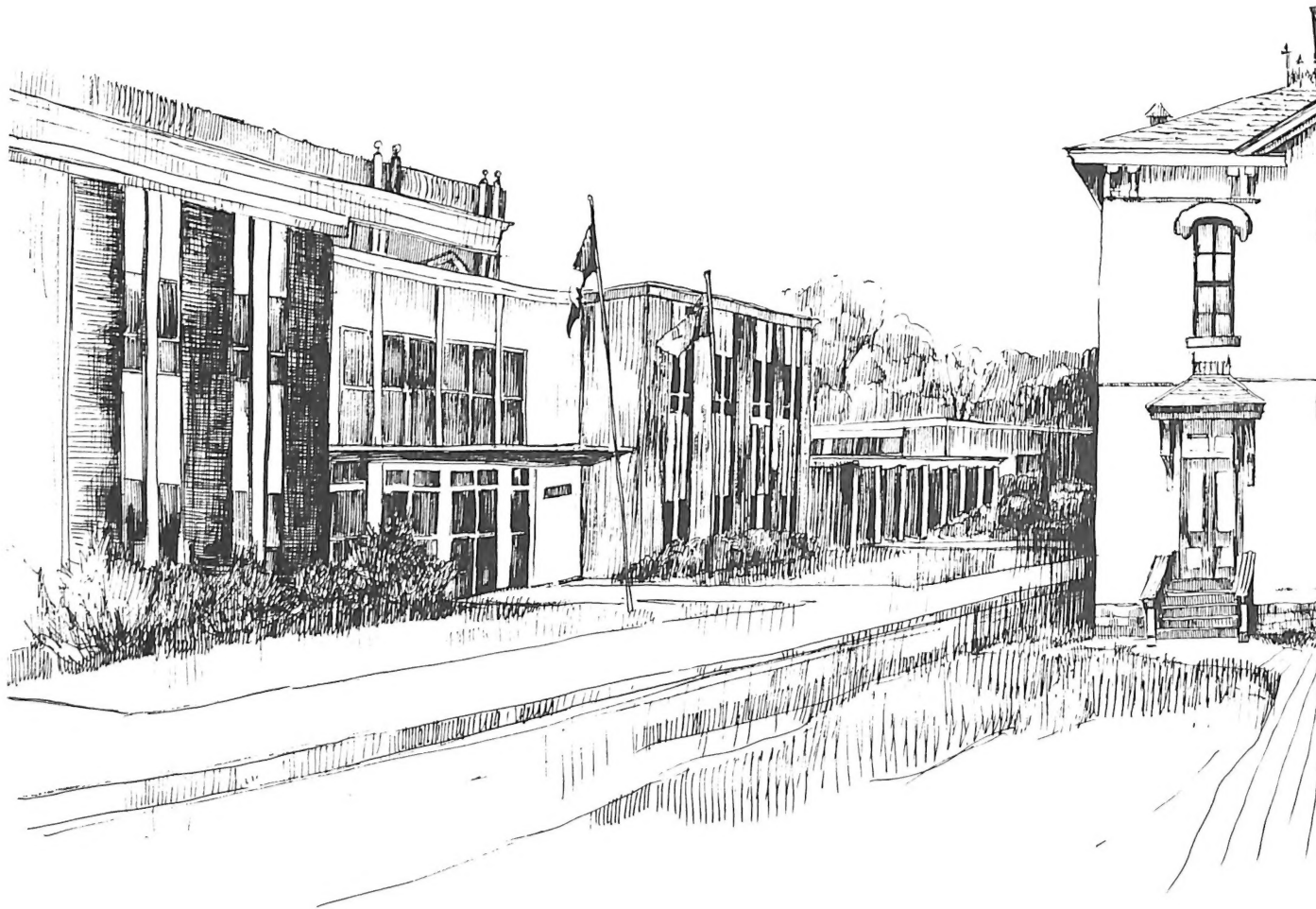
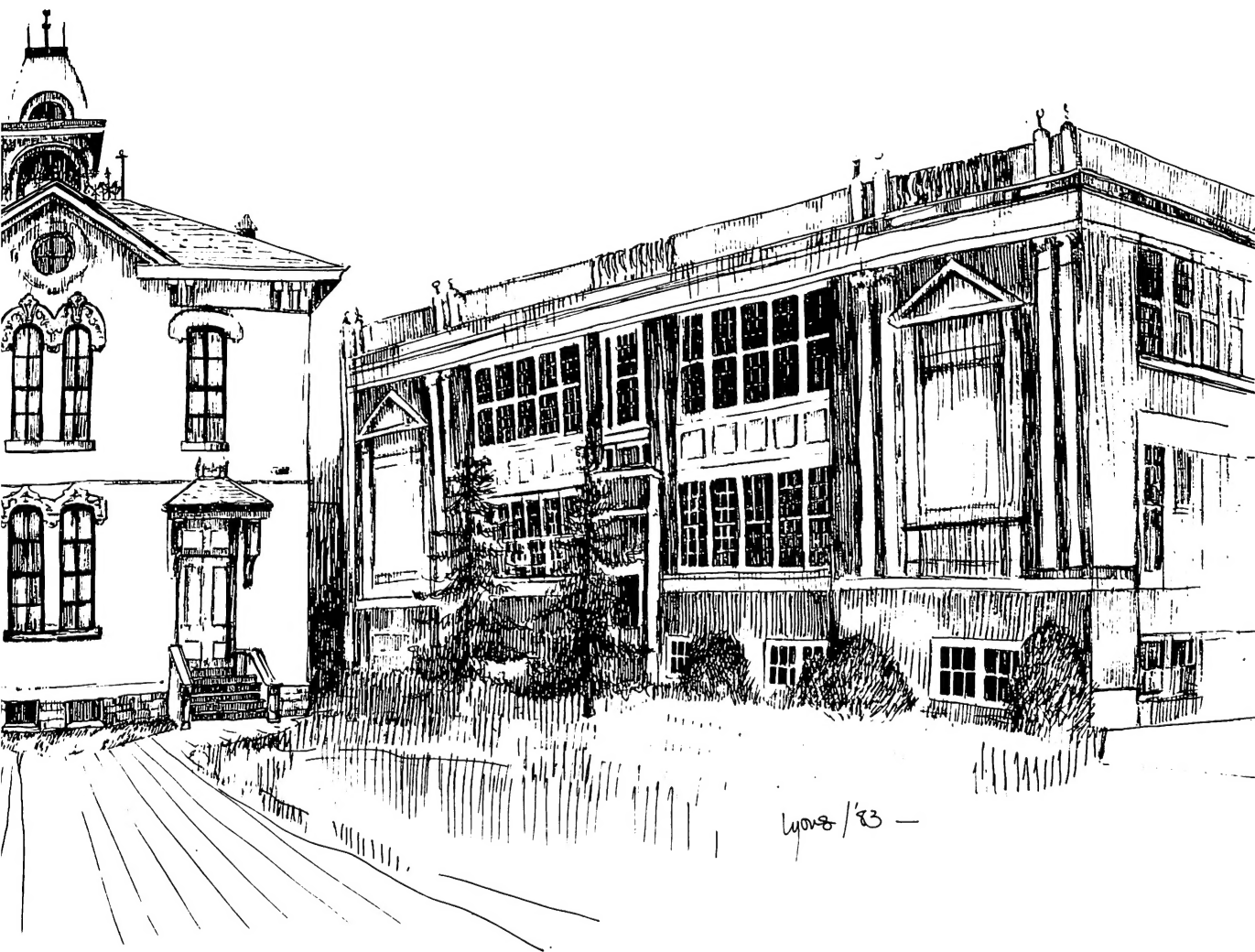




A CENTURY OF CLASS









# A CENTURY OF CLASS

## THE PAST IN THE PRESENT

The old yearbooks lay open,  
Wrinkled and dusty with age.

As I glance through the pages,  
I see a mirror of my youth.

A time I spent not really so long ago  
With my friends who are family, and,  
Part of my soul.

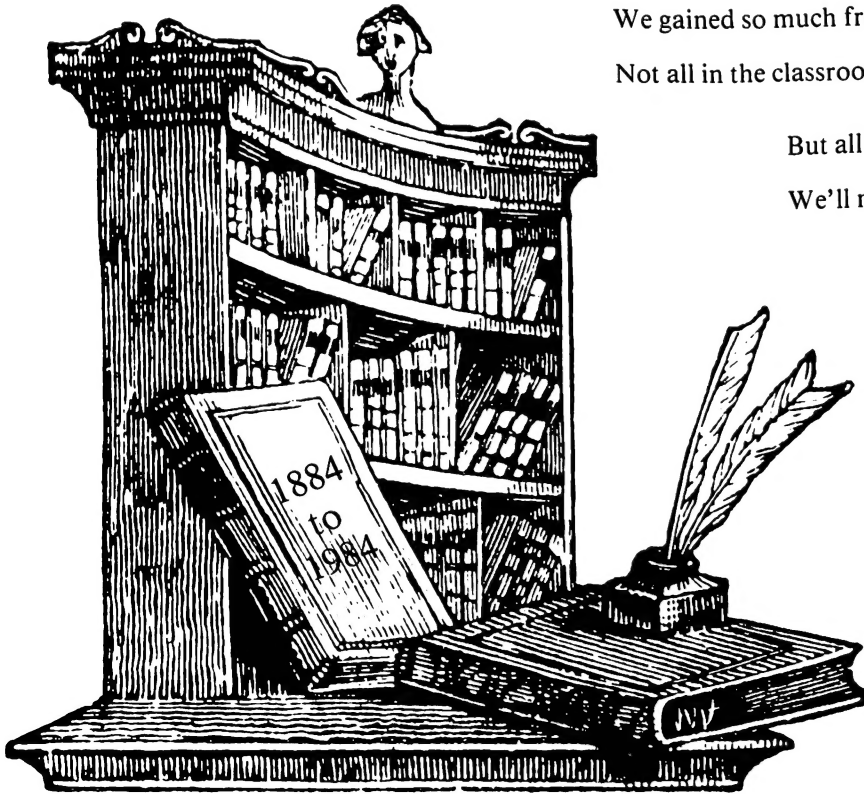
I think of the times both good and bad:  
The winning at the football,  
The losing at love.

We gained so much from the old school,  
Not all in the classrooms

But all of it precious.  
We'll never forget the memories

Of the past that are now . . .  
For awhile,  
The present.

Carol Nisbet  
Graduate 1984



## WELCOME TO 100 YEARS OF MEMORIES

The "cooking" of this Centennial Yearbook has involved many processes -- shopping for the right ingredients, finding that some items were unavailable and substituting others or doing without, recruiting helpers to chop up the many ingredients and stir them into different mixtures, bringing all the mixtures together and beating them into a smooth batter ready for the publisher's final "baking".

Many people have worked many hours to prepare this Centennial Yearbook for your pleasure. I thank all of those who worked on the different eras. Also, I give special thanks to those people who donated extra time and talents Shannon Inglis and Susan Brooks. Thank you. Without your support and encouragement we couldn't have accomplished so much.

An 'extra special' thank you to Principal Bill Palmer for his never-ending encouragement, enthusiasm and optimism.

So . . . Bite in! Relish a taste delight. Savour the flavour of the different eras at Petrolia High School. Enjoy!

Sheila Hewett  
Editor



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# STRIVING TO BUILD THE LEADERS OF TOMORROW

*"We are all blind until we see  
That in the human plan,  
Nothing is worth the making  
If it does not make the man.  
Why build these cities glorious  
If man unbuilted goes?  
In Vain we build the world unless  
The builder also grows," . . .*

WE WISH YOU SUCCESS AND HAPPINESS

## THE LAMBTON COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

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Mr. Larry Boyd, Vice-Chairman of the Board  
Mr. Allen Wells, Director of Education

## MESSAGE FOR CENTENNIAL YEARBOOK

One hundred years is a significant period of time in human living. It is long enough to almost surely just exceed the grasp of a normal human life and, even more certainly, of a single human memory. The passing of a century, then, forces us to link our lives with those who have gone before. It is much easier for us to look back than to look ahead. The past is the resting place of our memories and of a world that is still secure and familiar to us.

When we look back, however, to the beginning of a school, we are almost immediately forced to look, with those who founded L.C.C.V.I., to the future. No doubt, in the minds of many then, the future of greatest interest was a short one. It extended, perhaps, to the end of the secondary schooling of the young men and women then living, for whom the school was originally built. Perhaps the founders looked a little further, to the working lives of those early graduates or even of the younger children in the community. Certainly it would have been hard for them, as it is inherently hard for us, to think in terms of a whole century into the future.

Unlikely as it may once have seemed, that century has come and gone. Unlikely as it may seem now (but as Ontario's bicentennial year reminds us) we are now beginning the next century in a series of many centuries. Students whom we shall almost certainly never know will be looking back from a future beyond our own. They will be proud of the same school which has enriched our lives, proud of the same western Ontario community which has witnessed and nourished our own beginnings.

We have benefited from the contributions of those who have gone before. We may look with satisfaction to the future that graduates of this school will build. A second century will unfold in the life of a proud and cherished school.

L.C.C.V.I.'s present staff and students should feel considerable satisfaction that they, too, like Petrolians of a hundred years ago are laying a sound foundation on which to build that future.

Allen R. Wells,  
Director of Education.





# A MATTER OF PRINCIPALS



Sylvanus Phillips  
1884-1888



John J. Bell  
1888-1908



William Clyde  
1908-1916



Peter MacKichan  
1916-1948



E. Lorne Fox  
1948-1951

Sylvanus Phillips and William Palmer - the book ends of our Centennial Shelf! Along the shelf lie the biographies of the thirteen men who shaped the destinies of the Petrolia High School, the Petrolia District High School, Lambton Central Collegiate and Vocational Institute, and the destinies of the thousands of students who passed through its portals.

It is not the purpose of this piece to treat the tenure of each principal in exhaustive detail; nor do we purport to pass judgement on the contributions of each. We want merely to sketch the man, the moment and the milieu.

A spanking new school. A proud town. Sylvanus Phillips. And Petrolia High School set forth, inauspiciously, on its first one hundred years. Phillips' task was to establish tradition, a tradition of scholarship and excellence. J.J. Bell took the helm four years later and guided the school into the Twentieth Century. During the Great War, William Clyde must have had a difficult tenure, seeing the young men graduate from the oil fields of Petrolia to the putrid, rat-infested trenches of the Somme. The cenotaph in Victoria Park attests to the courage and commitment of the graduates of that era.

Except for the one-year principalship of Bruce Leckie and A.C. McPhail, Peter MacKichan was Mr. Petrolia High School from 1916 to 1948. At a time when school principals acted in loco parentis, as local constables and as cultural driving forces, MacKichan's task was gargantuan. He took the School through the Great Depression. While William Clyde could take pride in seeing his graduates distinguish themselves for "God and Country", Peter MacKichan was sending students into an uncertain economic situation, preparing them for jobs which did not exist. Yet his students, to this day, consider themselves as having an edge over others in those bleak days of the Thirties because MacKichan had insisted on high academic standards and proper business practice skills. When the jobs did materialize, his students were ready. This principal presided over the construction of the new school, on the present day Dufferin Street location. He, too, saw his graduates enlist in yet another war and he was still there to welcome home the living and to mourn the dead.

Lorne Fox succeeded MacKichan and for three years guided the school through the "Baby Boom." J.B. Wallace spent what he considered a rewarding year as the principal in 1951.

For eight years, Frank Sawyer held the position of principal. This was a period of stability, a period many look back on today as the "good old days." It was pre-Roberts Plan, a time in which the highest academic excellence was embodied in the Grade XIII Provincial Examinations.

Ted Brohman's principalship spanned the revolutionary years in Ontario education. A building boom was experienced across the entire province. Our school grew from the basic structure, overseen by MacKichan, to encompass a technical wing, a commercial wing, a huge cafeteria, gymnasium (Bradshaw Hall), staffroom, and office area, not to



J.B. Wallace  
1951



Frank D. Sawyer  
1952-1960



Edward H. Brohman  
1960-1969

mention our present library. Every available grant dollar was garnered and we even boasted about a revolutionary new "computer", the envy of surrounding high schools, the pride of ours. We were by now, Lambton Central Collegiate and Vocational Institute.

Clayton McCurdy's principalship was tragically cut short by a terminal illness in 1969. He had replaced Mr. Broham who had become Superintendent of Program under the new system of County Boards of Education. James Cassin was asked to fill the position left vacant by Mr. McCurdy's untimely death.

The turbulent Seventies were not easy on educators. The "Credit System" was introduced in 1970, replacing the Roberts Plan. An array of "options" were added to the traditional courses once offered in high schools. Enrolment peaked and then drastically declined. Spending ceilings were imposed by the Ministry of Education and the boom and expansion of the Sixties gave way to the "restraint" of the Seventies. And Jim Cassin was there, overseeing it all, influencing it all.

When Mr. Cassin moved into a supervisory, position with the Lambton County Board of Education in 1980, William Palmer came to Lambton Central C.V.I. Since he had been teacher and vice-principal in several Sarnia high schools, Bill Palmer came to L.C.C.V.I. knowing its uniqueness and distinctive character. He pledged to honour both. He has. This yearbook and the whole Centennial Celebration has his fullest support and personal involvement. Already, he has seen yet another change in high school education in Ontario. The Credit System of the Seventies with its array of options has been revised to permit students to complete all of their high school education in four years instead of the traditional five.

William Palmer. Sylvanus Phillips. One hundred years of principalship. One hundred years of continuity in educational excellence in the Town of Petrolia, in the County of Lambton. A matter of Principles!

John F. Burke



F. Clayton McCurdy  
1969



James M. Cassin  
1970-1980



William J. Palmer  
1980-



## REMINISCENCES . . .

JIM HUNTER:

A little shaving cream and lipstick smearing are all that is left in the initiation rites of LCCVI students in 1984. In 1918, as Jim Hunter recalls it, initiations were quite brutal and inescapable. Of course, it was all in fun, yet it seems not a great deal of students would consider these as a favourite pastime! These nightmares included being strung over a pipe suspended from the ceiling and having one's posterior paddled until one fell to the floor and having one's knickers filled with cinders only to wrestle with someone while wearing them!

Obviously many differences appear between the LCCVI of the eighties and the Petrolia High school sixty years prior to the present. "There is no comparison" Mr. Hunter stated and indeed the school has changed a great deal. The present population could be estimated at five times what it was then and the teaching staff consisted of three women and two men.

Unlike today when pupils move from class to class, then the students remained in one room while the teachers moved.

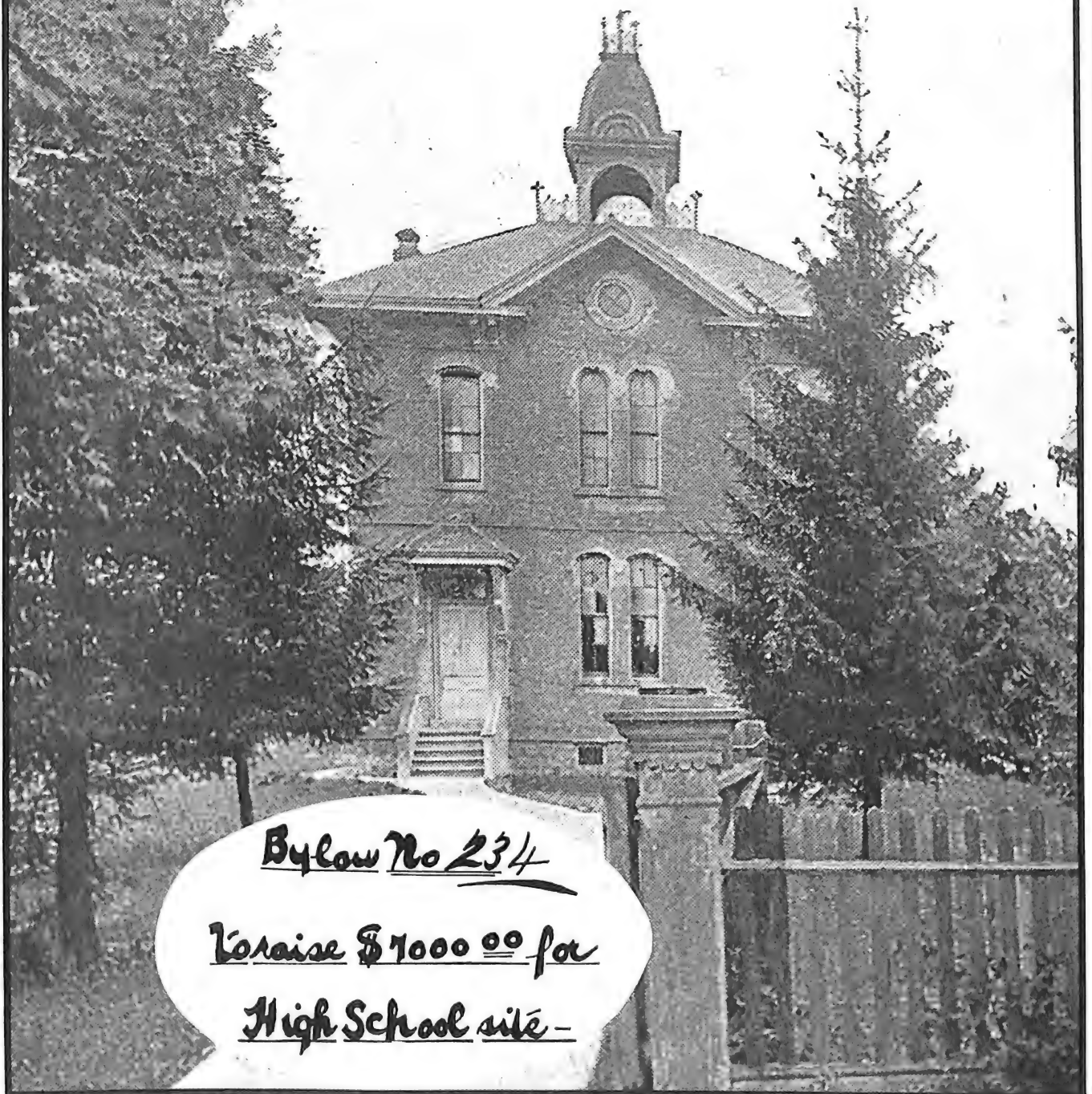
Mr. Hunter related that although the school was quite distinct, the teenagers themselves were similar to those today. "The discipline was much more rigid and adolescents had more respect for their elders," he said as he grinned "but we got into things we shouldn't have." He recalled that one of his chums could concoct a 'torpedo' from materials obtained at a pharmacy. He would then place them on the track of the train which ran directly behind the school. "When the train passed by . . ." he chuckled, well, you can imagine! They were not allowed to leave the schoolyard but on occasion some chaps would sneak out to smoke behind the box cars. "We got into trouble like any other kid," he said.

Surprisingly though, they didn't spend all their time getting into mischief or tormenting the teachers. Mr. Hunter recalled that there were Petrolia football and baseball teams of which he was a member. After school the team would hop on the train and ride to their game in a neighbouring town. "If you didn't have something to do, you simply made your own fun," he explained.

One could describe the Petrolia High school in the early 1900's as Mr. Hunter described the clothing the girls wore, "plain". The school has progressed a great deal from a four room school house to the three storey multi-faceted complex we attend today. In contrast with the old Petrolia High school, the Red and White of LCCVI looks exceptionally colourful!

Written by Denise Richard  
1984 LCCVI student

# A HISTORY OF PETROLIA HIGH SCHOOL



Bylaw No 234

Vote \$1000.00 for

High School site -



## PETROLIA'S FIRST HIGH SCHOOL: 1884

On February 2, 1884 the electors of Petrolia voted 137 to 13 in favour of By-law 234 to raise \$7,000 to establish a high school in their town. Tenders were quickly called and the building contract awarded to W.C. McKenzie for \$4,484.51.

By the end of August this first high school, built at the corner of King and Dufferin Streets, was ready to open with 75 students on its roster. It was a two storey, forty-foot square, white brick building, with two large classrooms (one a chemistry laboratory). Two other half-sized rooms, serving as a library and a cloak room, along with a five feet by six feet teachers' room completed the interior.

The first principal was Sylvanus Phillips, B.A. of Huntington, Quebec who taught mathematics, physics and modern languages. His assistant was D.M. Grant, B.A. of Toronto teaching history, geography, classics, and chemistry. By January 1885 a third teacher, James Brebner, who taught English, had been hired. No doubt their classes were frequently disrupted by the noise of shunting trains since the school had been built next to the Canada Southern Railway tracks.

It wasn't until 32 years later, in 1916, that a fourth member was added to the high school's staff. But by 1921 a fifth teacher was required and so was the use of one room at Jubilee School in Petrolia's East End. A sixth teacher and a second room at Jubilee were needed in 1922, and yet another staff member in 1923.



First High School in Petrolia at King and Dufferin:  
1884-1926

*A Bylaw of the Town of Petrolia to raise the sum of \$7000.00 for the purchase of a site for a High School and for the erection and fitting up of High School buildings and the grounds and out houses connected with the same and to issue debentures therefor and to authorize the levying of a special rate for the payment of said debentures and interest*



## THE NEW PETROLIA HIGH SCHOOL: 1926



In September 1926 the new Petrolia High School (P.H.S.) was opened with ten teachers and 250 students. Architect D.R. Franklin of London was the designer while Bath and Anderson of Midland were the contractors. The Honourable G. Howard Ferguson, Premier and Minister of Education of the Province of Ontario was in Petrolia on October 6, 1926 for the official opening.

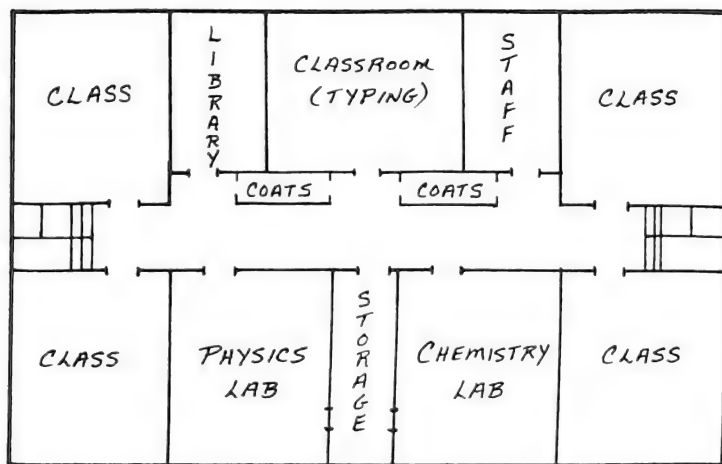
The new high school was built facing Dufferin Street, to the west of the original high school, at a cost of \$100,000. The Advertiser-Topic described it as having "well-lighted and ventilated classrooms, splendid auditorium, library, and gymnasium". The historian in the "PHS Yearbook 1926-27" wrote, "What a change from the old school where we used to pull bricks out of the sides of the walls to throw at each other".

Mr. Franklin was a highly respected architect who specialized in school designs. He was noted for "first class buildings with maximum accommodation at a minimum cost" and he paid particular attention to lighting, heating, ventilation, and sanitation systems.

Mr. J.B. Dale, member of the Petrolia School Board and chief advocate of the new high school, speaking at the official opening, stated that Petrolia had previously held the reputation of having the worst high school in Ontario but now had a school that compared favourably with the best of its size in the province. The school was an enhancement to the town and attracted many visitors. Its red brick exterior was highlighted by a great deal of ornamental stonework and a very attractive central entrance. The interior was equally impressive with white walls and natural wood finishing throughout.

There were nine classrooms, all the same size and all fitted with the same number of standard seats, plus two modern and well-equipped science labs. Commercial rooms boasted ten Underwood typewriters, and the latest business equipment. Other features included an electric clock system which rang a series of bells in 35 minute periods, drinking fountains, heavy duty linoleum flooring, a three-plated electric stove in the self-sustaining cafeteria, a powerful central fan for ventilation, and fireproof construction. The gymnasium was standard size and the coal burning furnace had a gas heating attachment for heating water for the showers. Side entrances led off to the boys' and girls' recreation yards.

# LAYOUT OF THE NEW HIGH SCHOOL

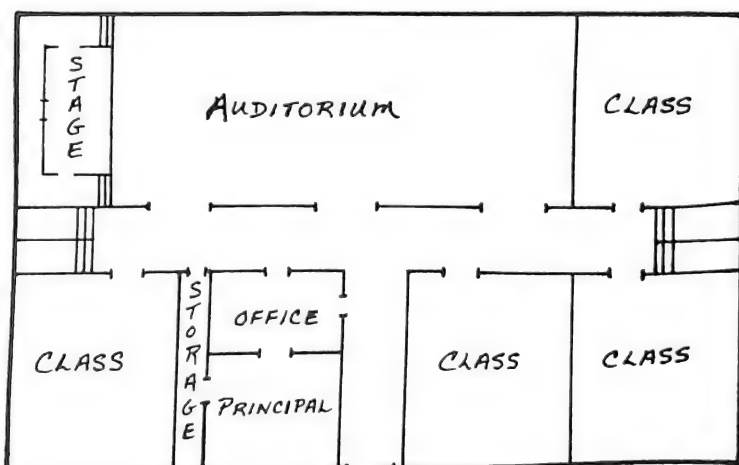


SECOND FLOOR

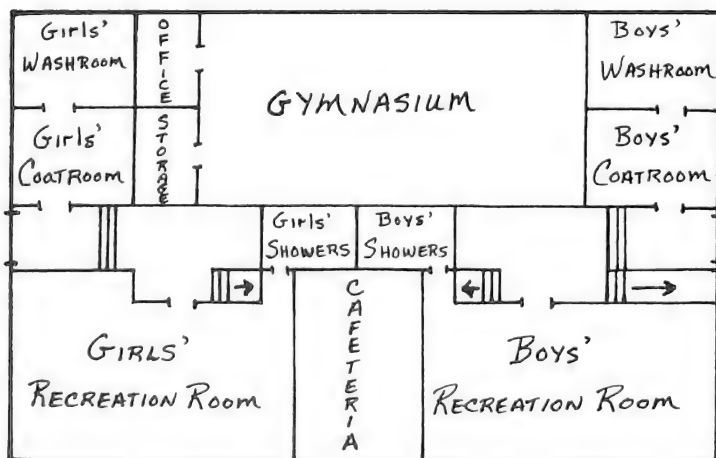
Floor plan of Petrolia High School in the 1930's, as remembered by Randolph Thomson, Petrolia.



View of the west entrance (boys') and the rear of the school in the 1940's.



MAIN FLOOR



BASEMENT

Two sets of stairs in the basement, one for girls and one for boys, led down to the main level of the gymnasium below. A third staircase on the boys' side led down to the fireproof furnace room.

## PETROLIA DISTRICT HIGH SCHOOL: 1947

In January 1947, having served as a high school for Petrolia for 21 years, the recently formed Petrolia District High School Board opened the school for the use of pupils from the surrounding areas when it assumed the responsibility for daily transporting students to and from school. Previously, students from outside Petrolia were responsible for their own transportation and often boarded in town during the week while they attended school, returning to their homes on the weekend. It was also at this time that a number of smaller continuation schools, such as those in Oil Springs and Wyoming, were closed and their students then went by bus to Petrolia to complete their high school education.

Petrolia High School became Petrolia District High School (P.D.H.S.). It's district included Petrolia, Oil Springs, Wyoming, Enniskillen Township, and parts of the Townships of Dawn, Moore, Plympton, and Sombra. All were represented on the new school board.



The "Red and White" colours were chosen in 1926. The colours were changed to "gold and red" during the 1930's, but much controversy ensued, with the result that the "Red and White" were eventually reinstated.

Still the school did not have an official crest. The school board stamp was the only school emblem. Affairs of the students were in the hands of the Athletic Society, since there was no Student Council. With the assistance of Miss Rose, the crest committee decided on the Latin motto, Pro Schola (for school). A contest for all students was conducted by the Athletic Society, culminating in the present crest. The winning design was created by Mona Dougall.



Petrolia's first High School, erected in 1884, was sold to Alfred Kirkpatrick for \$500 in 1926. It was torn down soon after the new High School was opened that year.

## BUILDING OF THE ANNEX: 1952

As enrolment grew with the operation of buses throughout the school district, arrangements were made to use three rooms in Jubilee School for a four-year period by which time the school board planned to have a new high school built on a larger site. However, in 1950 the Department of Education made it clear that they would only allow the building of an annex and the remodelling of the present auditorium into 3 classrooms.

The designs of the resulting annex was made by J.B. Parkin Associates of Toronto while Laur Construction Company of Sarnia were awarded the building contract. After a year long renovation program, the Honourable W.J. Dunlop, Minister of Education officiated at the opening on April 29, 1952. It was a \$250,000 project and the high school now had 17 classrooms in the main building, 18 teachers, and almost 400 pupils.



A modern cafeteria and kitchen were included in the new annex adjoining the east end of the school.

### SCHOOL FEATURES:

agriculture dept.

commercial room

woodworking shop

library & English room

2 gymnasiums

sewing room

nurses room

cafeteria

administrative offices

visiting teams dressing room

2 science laboratories

kitchen -- modern stainless steel equipment

modern well-furnished teachers' rooms

inter-communication system in each room

free transportation for rural students

staff of qualified teachers with specialists in every dept.



New Gymnasium and Viewing Gallery.

### COURSES OFFERED:

university entrance

normal school entrance

nursing school requirements

agriculture

commercial special

home economics

art and music

general shop (woodworking, drafting, sheet metal, welding, machine shop, and farm mechanics)

## THE WEST WING: 1956

Four years later in 1956 the West Wing and second cafeteria were built by Quinney Construction of Byron with Architects Charles H. Gillen of London. A steel shortage, Plumbers Union strike, and vandalism delayed completion until early in 1957. E.C. Ashbury, M.A., Assistant Superintendent of Secondary Education in Ontario officially opened the new \$120,000 wing in February at Commencement. It was a six room addition which included 2 classrooms, 3 science rooms, a music room, a lady teachers' room, an agriculture lab, and a vocational guidance room, with student lockers lining the walls of the corridors. The high school could now accommodate 640 pupils and had a staff of 25 teachers. Present enrolment was 425.

Another addition to the West Wing was built in 1959-60 with Riddle, Connor, and Associates the architects. It was opened at Commencement in 1960 by the Honourable John Robarts, Minister of Education. A third cafeteria addition was completed in 1961.



Petrolia District High School in 1961 with the East Annex, West Wing, and Cafeteria Additions complete.



## LAMBTON CENTRAL COLL. VOC. INST.: 1962

The year 1962 brought even greater changes to Petrolia District High School, and along with them a new name: Lambton Central Collegiate and Vocational Institute.

What started out as a small project quickly ballooned into a full scale technical school addition and renovation program when it was realized that large grants were available from both Federal and Provincial Governments on vocational schools built by March 1963. Robert D. Irvine of Riddle, Connor and Associates of Sarnia was the architect once more while R.W. McKay Construction Co. Ltd. of Sarnia was the general contractor. The total cost: \$1,085,107.03 (\$940,878 in grants).

The new technical wing included seven shops (machine, electrical, auto mechanics, carpentry, drafting, boy's and girl's occupational). Six new classrooms (including a music room and business machines room), one new science laboratory, and a new home economic's room (the old home economic's room to become the library) were also added. The gymnasium was doubled in size with a new east end stage and two sets of change rooms built. Renovations also called for an expanded administration area to include a general office, two guidance rooms, 2 principals offices, a vault, health room and office machine room, and a new foyer and entrance way off Dufferin Street.

Major heating and electrical changes were made in the school with the installation of thermostatically controlled unit heaters and ventilators in each room, the replacement of coal-fueled boilers by gas-fired ones, and the purchase of two large transformers.



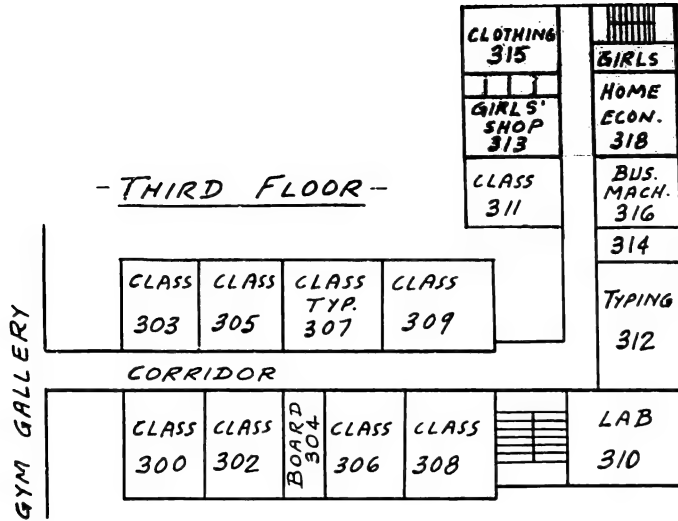
"By Study We Develop Citizenship"



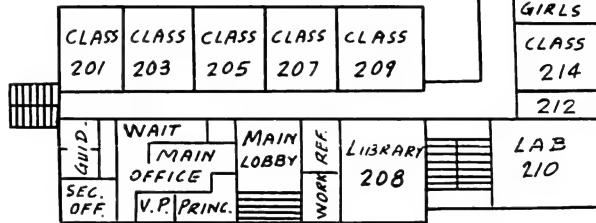
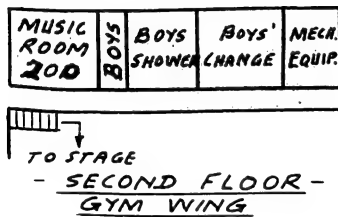
Lynda (Stewardson) Tiffin  
Leo & Jean (Luker) Bradshaw

# - FLOOR PLAN - LAMBTON CENTRAL COLLEGIATE VOCATIONAL INSTITUTE

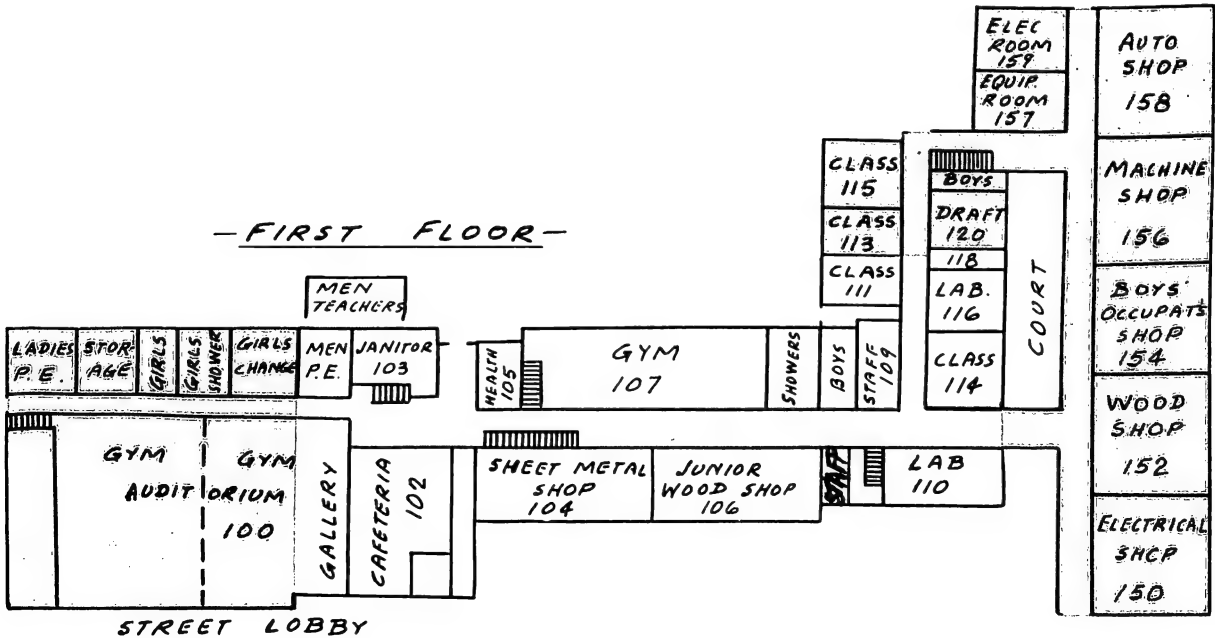
SHADED AREAS  
NEW ADDITIONS



## - MAIN FLOOR -

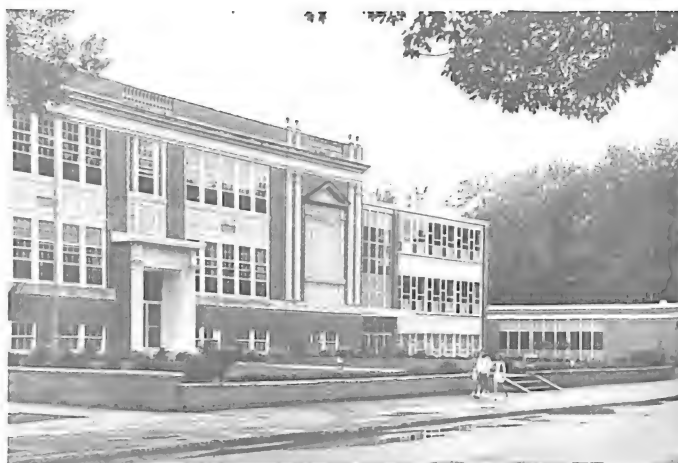


## - FIRST FLOOR -



## UNDER CONSTRUCTION

Sod turning ceremonies were held in February and it was hoped the new addition and renovation project would be completed by September. A lengthy electricians strike during the summer and early fall, however, delayed completion until December. School opened as usual in September, but was without heat and lights until sometime in October. The state of the building was described by many as "chaotic" and students were told to dress warmer for classes when an early cold spell set in.



The Members of the  
Petrolia District High School Board  
take pleasure in extending a cordial invitation to

---

to attend the  
Official Opening of the New Vocational School  
by the Minister of Education  
Honourable William Davis, M. P. P.  
at the  
Lambton Central Collegiate-Vocational Institute  
Dufferin St., Petrolia, Ontario  
on Friday Evening, December 7th, 1962

Ceremonies to begin in the new auditorium at 8:00 p.m.

Jack Smith, Chairman, New Building Committee

Wm. Bradshaw, Chairman



Technical Wing under construction.

Finally the work was done and the "New Vocational School" (L.C.C.V.I.) was officially opened on December 7, 1962 by the new Minister of Education, the Honourable William Davis, M.P.P. Technical courses formerly available only to city students were now offered to all rural area students as well. Students from Watford and Forest started coming by bus to Petrolia for both technical and commercial courses. L.C.C.V.I. had 916 students and 40 teachers and was setting records for night school enrolments as well.

## FINALLY FINISHED



(L-R) Mr. Jack Smith, Chairman of the New Building Committee; Mr. E.H. Brohman, Principal; the Honourable William Davis, Minister of Education; and the Honourable Bryan Cathart, Minister of Travel and Publicity at the official opening of the new Vocational School Addition on December 7, 1962.



Mr. William Bradshaw (L) receives plaque from Mr. James Pardy, Petrolia Trustee.

At Commencement, December 20, 1962, the new gym-auditorium was formally dedicated to Mr. William Bradshaw, Chairman of the Board of Education (Trustee from Sombra Township). Gym A-B, with a seating capacity of 1200 is well known as Bradshaw Hall.



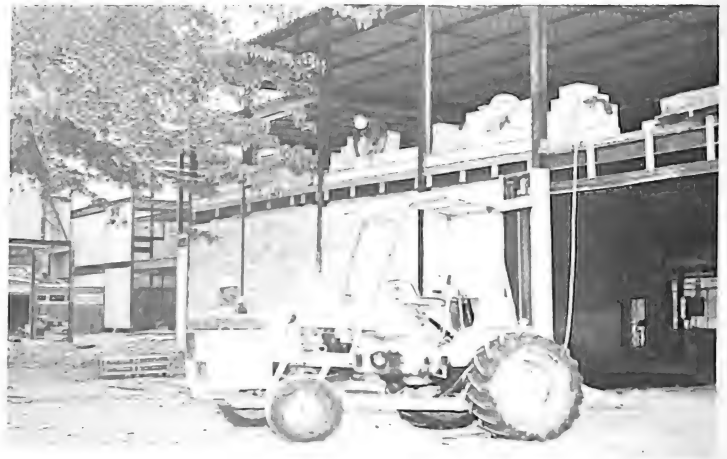
Bradshaw Hall: the New Gym-Auditorium.

## YET ANOTHER EXPANSION PROGRAM: 1967

But even as the 1962 expansion was underway, Principal E.H. Brohman was telling the Petrolia District High School Board and its neighbouring boards that further expansion would be necessary as enrolments continued to increase.

Five years later, at Commencement in December 1967, Lambton Central was officially opening another \$1,700,000 addition. This final expansion included the remainder of the existing technical wing, the commercial wing, the occupational trades shops for boys and girls, a new staff room, an amphitheatre (present day music room) a green house, one general classroom, two seminar rooms, gym C, enlargement of both the cafeteria and the library, the new administration and student services offices, the expansion of the parking lot and a new track and campus, the "Grant Moore Memorial Field". The field was named in 1969 after the late Grant Moore, a chairman and Plympton Township trustee of the high school board.

Robert Irvine, the architect, and Ed Curran of Curran and Herridge, the general contractor for this last building project, gave L.C.C.V.I. a brand new front exterior and entrance way facing Dufferin Street.



New Commercial Wing.



New Occupational Trades Shops.



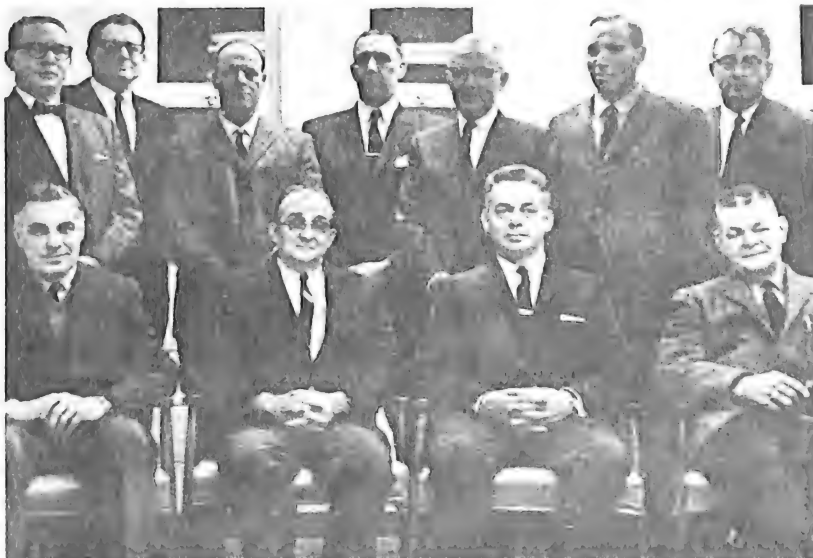


## A COMPUTER FOR L.C.C.V.I.: 1967

It must also be noted in this history that L.C.C.V.I. became one of only three secondary schools in Canada to boast a computer when the IBM 1130 Electronic Computing System was installed in its very own air-conditioned room, in January 1967. Its three units included a card reader, console, and printer. Lambton Central quickly became a "star attraction" for visiting educators who came to view its computer and data processing centre along with its new television equipment. L.C.C.V.I. was now a fully-composite secondary school of advanced design and training. It was one of the five most modern institutes of its kind in Western Ontario. Its principals and board members well deserved the congratulations and praise they received for their foresight, cooperation, and obvious accomplishments.



## BOARD OF EDUCATION GOES COUNTY: 1969



Another milestone in Lambton Central's history was reached in 1969 when the Lambton County Board of Education was created with its offices in Sarnia.

The Petrolia District High School Board had originally opposed the introduction of a single county board fearing that the concerns and interests of city schools would take precedence over those of county schools. It was, therefore, with great reluctance that they relinquished their authority.

Members of the Petrolia District High School Board in 1969. FRONT ROW: (L-R) George Hodgins, Robert Hastings, Clare Freer, Clare Nelson. BACK ROW: Jos. Stephenson, Keith Dawson, John Keene, Harold White, Howard Wynne, Stan Sheffer, Jack Smith.

## LAMBTON CENTRAL TODAY: 1984



Aerial View of L.C.C.V.I. and the Grant Moore Memorial Field.

Since 1967 few changes have been made to either the physical size or appearance of Lambton Central Collegiate and Vocational Institute. Its student enrolment peaked at 1350 in 1979, but has gradually dropped to 1050 in 1984. A maximum teaching staff of 82.5 in 1978 now stands at 67.

L.C.C.V.I.'s Principal in its one hundredth year is Mr. William J. Palmer, B.A., M. Ed. He has been in Petrolia for four years and is assisted by two vice principals, Mr. William Danylchuk, B.P.H. Ed., and Mr. Robert Purvis, B.S., M. Ed.

As a special centennial project an \$80,000 all-weather track for community use has been constructed on the Grant Moore Memorial Field behind the school. Funds were received from Wintario and the Community Recreation Centres Act grants, the Lambton County Board of Education, the student's council of L.C.C.V.I., the Town of Petrolia, and various service clubs and private individuals.

Such is the proud and remarkable history of Petrolia High School's first one hundred years 1884-1984. As for L.C.C.V.I.'s second one hundred years --

GO FOR IT, LANCERS!



## OUR BEGINNINGS . . .

No Razzle!! No Dazzle!!

Just a normal day for the opening of the brand new high school in Petrolia. Where were the bands, the speeches, the ribbon-cutting ceremony?? - and my goodness - no politicians? Such was the case the first day of September in 1884 as a new era began for Petrolians. No longer did they have to send their children far away or hire private tutors for achievement of a high school education. Little has been written about that first day so long ago, but it probably was exciting for the students who entered with high hopes of achievement and for the two teachers who received them with equally high hopes of turning their charges into fine scholars.



## PETROLIA HIGH SCHOOL, CIRCA 1887.

### PHOTO OF THE STAFF AND PUPILS OF PETROLIA HIGH SCHOOL

It has been difficult to fix the date the photo was taken. Opinions vary between 1886 and 1887. The consensus of those consulted favoured 1887.

Sylvanus Phillips, M.A., Principal, is on the right of the right door. John J. Bell, B.A. (who became Principal in 1888) is on the extreme right of photo. William Clyde, M.A. is in the body of the group and in line with left side of left door. He is the only surviving member of the staff at the date this memo is made. He later became principal.

This photo presented by G.G. Moncrieff, 1888 - 1891; August 1928.

1884 to 1925

# EDUCATION

The Petrolia High School Board was composed of four members, a chairman, secretary-treasurer, a representative of the Town and one from the County. It was not part of the Public School Board for many years and, indeed, reports show that it even discouraged any attempts at amalgamation of these two Boards. This Board seems to have been an entity unto itself. It was difficult to find news of happenings at the High School. Few pictures and no minutes of meetings were available so we must glean most of our facts from the few newspaper reports and other remembrances.

August 28, 1885

## P.H.S. - A Highly Successful Career

The Petrolia High School has made its mark, and it is a good one. Although the school has only been in existence since September last, its record this year entitles it to rank among the best schools of the Province. There were 13 candidates who wrote for the Local Examination of the Toronto University, and eleven passed, which gives the school first position in the province for number of successful candidates at the examination.

The school opens next Monday under very high circumstances. The grounds are in excellent condition, and the school is furnished with all the apparatus, maps, etc., necessary to illustrate the subjects of Physics, Chemistry and Geography.

The teachers are all of the best the country can produce. The principal, S. Philips, B.A., will take charge of Mathematics, Physics and Modern Languages. D.M. Grant, B.A., will have History, Geography, Classics and Chemistry as his charge; Mr. James Brebner, a second year graduate of Toronto University, having honors in Classics and Mathematics, will preside over the English branches. Classes will be organized for Teacher's non-professional Examinations, of all grades of certificates; Matriculation in Arts, Law and Medicine, with honors in all departments.

In addition to the Literary Society now in existence in the school, a reading room is to be established at once, which will be well supplied with all the latest and leading literature of the age. To those parents who have children who have passed the Entrance Examinations we would unhesitatingly recommend the Petrolia High School, for it has no equal in the county and very few in the Province.

October 23, 1885

High School Inspector, John Seith, Esq., paid a

visit to our High School last Friday and very closely and rigidly examined the pupils in their different studies from 9 a.m. until nearly 6 o'clock. The Inspector went over the ground and building most thoroughly, and he was more than pleased with our school, and its situation was first-class, being much better than he had expected to find. There were a few points that his professional eye caught at a glance, such as curtains on the south window to shade the light from the desk, which will be attended to right away; a few new maps and a globe, which can very easily be got. He also advised the creation of a gymnasium. That will be seen to further on. Your teachers, he said, are well up, away above the average, and from what he had seen were quite enthusiastic in their work. The Inspector's visit was quite unexpected, Mr. Phillips only receiving notice the evening before he arrived. Everything passed off very satisfactory to all concerned.

February 5, 1886

## HIGH SCHOOL BOARD

Mr. Phillips, principal, presented his report stating the total no. of pupils on the roll as 103; Upper School, 10, Lower, 93; average attendance, 92. The entrance examination was held in December, at which 66 candidates presented themselves. There was passed by the local Board 23, and all were allowed by the Dep't of Education except one.

June 25, 1886

The Board met on Tuesday evening last. Through press of advertising we are compelled to hold over the Principal's report for April and May until next issue. The Board raised the Principal's salary \$100, making it now \$1,200. The raising of Mr. Phillip's salary is a thing very much thought of by the public, as he has been indefatigable in his efforts to advance the interests of the school.



For many years an elementary student had to write examinations to gain entrance to the high school. (August 6, 1886.)

The following is a list of the candidates who passed the Entrance Examination, with the number of marks obtained by each. The highest number of marks attainable was 756. The candidate to pass required to take one-half of this number, 378: -- . . . An example of the content of the entrance examinations was described on February 24, 1888.

#### OUR PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Work of the Senior Division.

The next Entrance Examination to High Schools and Collegiate Institutes will be held on July 4th, 5th and 6th.

The following is the limit of studies in the various subjects: --

**READING:** -- A general knowledge of the elements of vocal expression, with special references to emphasis, inflection and pause. The reading, with proper expression, of any selection in the reader authorized for Fourth Book classes. The pupil should be taught to read intelligently as well as intelligibly

**LITERATURE.** -- The pupil should be taught to give for word or phrases, meanings which may be substituted therefore, without impairing the sense of the passage; to illustrate and show the appropriateness of important words or phrases; to distinguish between synonyms in common use.

January 16, 1885

**THE YOUNGEST** --- Master Frank Woodworth, only ten years of age, passed the entrance examination, standing eighth on the list of Petrolia pupils.

At noon hours the school echoed with singing and playing of the rather tinny piano in second form. Here some of the braver ones danced down the aisles but a sharp look out was kept for Mr. MacKichan and when he arrived everything was quiet.

There was no gymnasium for sports so if the weather was uncertain, windows were pushed up, students standing in the aisles doing exercises. Here we acquired the art of the swinging of dumb bells, but if a close watch was not kept you whacked the scholar behind you on the head. Basketball, played outside was supervised by the lady teachers, while Mr. MacKichan officiated further over the boys. If it rained, you stayed in.

May (Matthews) Trapp.

#### BIG HONOR FOR JACK STIRRETT

Whether it be war, study or sport it would seem as if the Stirrett boys of this town cannot help climbing to the top. Their record in war is well known. Last week we drew attention to their wonderful ability for athletics. This week we have the great pleasure of congratulating Jack Stirrett on winning the coveted Rhodes Scholarship which carries with it a three year course in the great Oxford University and is worth \$1500 a year. Commenting on it the Toronto Globe says:

The Rhodes scholar from the Province of Ontario chosen this year is John Ross Stirrett of Petrolia, Ont., a University of Toronto student. The Ontario committee for the selection announced yesterday that Mr. Stirrett had been chosen out of nineteen applicants, the largest number yet applying. Mr. Stirrett, who is twenty-two years of age, is the son of Robert Stirrett, general merchant, of Petrolia.



## LIFE IN PETROLIA - PRE 1900

ONE HUNDRED pupils at the Petrolia High School --- who said it would be a failure? A better educational institution exists in very few counties in Ontario. Three of the best teachers in the Province are employed, and everything that is necessary is found in the building.

from the Advertiser



June 5, 1885

### UNDOUBTED FACTS

(Advertiser/Petrolia)

That the Central Roller Rink is the "boss" place to spend your evenings.

That the Petrolia High School is the most popular educational institution in the county.

That a few more heavy fines ought to put enough cash in the town treasury to block pave Petrolia streets.

Large crowds attended the Roller Rink on Christmas Day both afternoon and evening and the number of skates owned by the rink were soon exhausted and hence double the number could have been. A general good time was passed. (January 1886)

A "poverty party" is the latest. Invitations printed on straw board and enclosed in cheap yellow envelopes are circulated. Tickets for the ball are forty-six cents and supper nineteen cents. No gentleman is allowed to participate who has less than two patches on his clothes; the ladies are dressed in calico, and refreshments are served on wooden plates. (April 1888)

On Friday evening the Petrolia High School Literary Society held the first of a proposed series of entertainments in the High School. The building was well filled by pupils and friends and every one went home well pleased and profited by the night's recreation. The Literary Society has to thank the Misses Colter, Miss J. Corey and Miss McDonald for the several parts they took in rendering the entertainment attractive. Mr. Phillips' popular lecture on electricity proved a very interesting fraction of the program. The mysterious workings of electricity as a mechanical force in connection with the electric bell being clearly "discovered" to all. We hope the President of the Society will continue his lectures. Miss M. Murray, Miss L. Chamberlin, Miss M. Canneff, and Messrs. Colter, Luckan and Beamer took a prominent part in the proceedings and acquitted themselves in a manner creditable to the school. (November 12, 1886)



Dufferin Avenue, looking east.





## LUCY THOMPSON REMEMBERS . . .



No electricity. No indoor plumbing. No radio. No television. No life - right? Wrong! Lucy Thompson, who grew up in Petrolia at the turn of the century, certainly doesn't think so.

Ninety-two year-old Miss Thompson exhibited the same sense of wit and humour during my visit to Fiddick's Nursing Home in Petrolia, that enabled her to enjoy life and school during the first decade of the Twentieth Century. While life, by our standards, was austere during her teenage years, one could never convince her of that.

When Lucy attended Petrolia High School in 1910, it was a four room, two-storey, white brick building with a cupola on top. Girls and boys had separate entrances. There was a large yard surrounded by a high board fence. Many students went to school by train, since Petrolia was serviced by two railways: The Grand Trunk and the Michigan Central. The present day Petrolia Library served as the Grand Trunk station and the M.C.R. depot was situated near the site of the Advertiser-Topic building.

In Miss Thompson's Years at the high school, there were four "forms" or grade levels. Grades 9 and 10 were on the first floor, eleven and twelve on the second. Most students left school at the end of the third form. Only those wishing to go to college or university would go to the fourth form. Lucy did this. Arithmetic, Algebra, Geometry, Physics, Chemistry, Literature, Latin and French were the offered subjects, the first six being compulsory. Bookkeeping was taught in the first form (Grade

9). There were five teachers, including the principal. Lucy's favourite teacher was the principal, Mr. J.J. Bell.

A typical day would start at 9:00 with the saying of Bible verses and the singing of God Save the King. Classes would then be taught, with the teachers moving between classes, until noon. At 1:30, classes would resume until 4:00.

Christmas holidays started on December 22 and ended around January 2. Easter holiday was the same as it is now. Since there were only the June exams, all students wrote and were done in three days. Summer holidays then started on June 30 and continued until after Labour Day.

Favourite pastimes of Lucy were music, singing and playing basketball. She was on the girl's basketball team but after a slight mishap she decided it wasn't for her.

The popular trends for girls were Middy blouses, blue skirts and long braided hair. This is very different from today.

Each year, the school would put on a Christmas concert. Other than that, there weren't any school activities, such as clubs or school dances. There wasn't much time for these. School pictures were rarely taken and there wasn't such a thing as school registration. You just came to school. Lucy remembers being on only one field trip. Her biology teacher took the class to the woods by the cemetery (now Lorne Henderson Conservation Area).

As Miss Thompson looked back at her years at Petrolia High School, her remembrances were sprinkled with joy and amusement. I hope that we all will look back on our high school days with the same feelings as she does.

Cheryl Sawyer, Student L.C.C.V.I.  
1984.

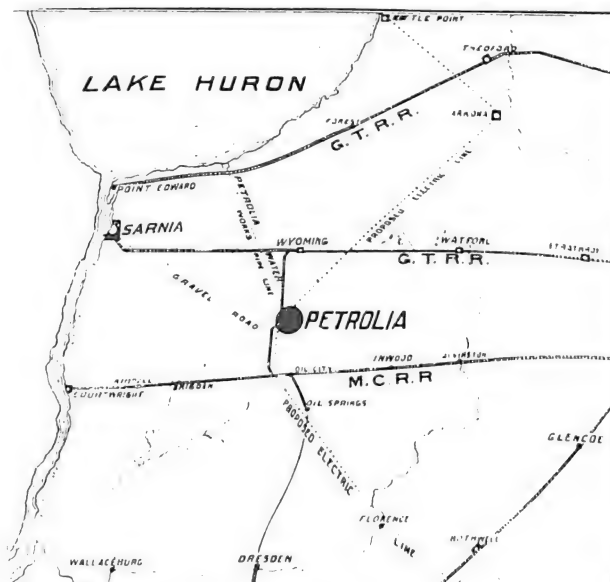
## TO THE 20'S



### The War Years 1914-1918

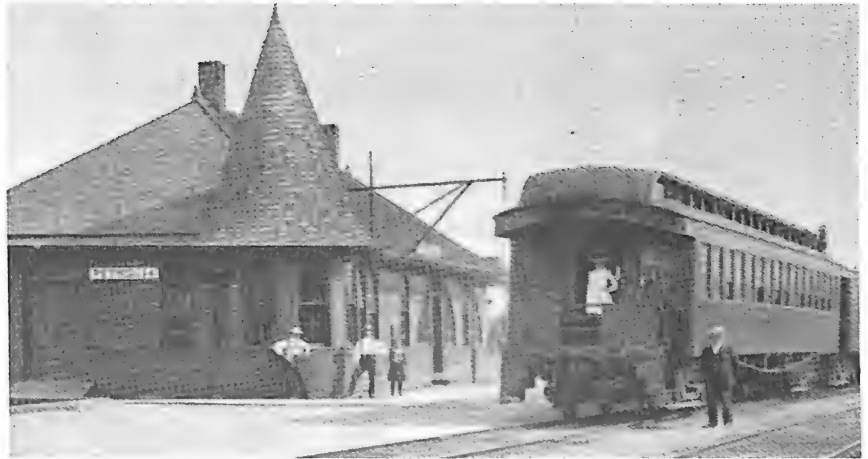
A plaque in the hallways of L.C.C.V.I. commemorates those students who fell in the Great War.

H. Robert Nicol represents the lads who became caught up in the Great War, World War I. He played football at P.H.S. in 1914-15. At the age of 15, he left school to enlist in the 34th Battalion. After the war was over, Mr. Nicol returned to continue his education at Chatham Business School. In 1963 he retired as General Manager of the A.T. & T. System of the New York Headquarter.



## THE EARLY SCHOOL BUS

In the early days, many students travelled from as far as Courtwright by train to Petrolia High School. The Michigan Central and the Grand Trunk Railways serviced Petrolia.



Michigan Central Railway Station



Grand Trunk Railway Depot  
(now Petrolia Library)

“When we attended school in Brigden, we walked two miles to catch a train at 8 a.m. through all kinds of weather. If the storm was too bad for the train to get through, we had to walk home through blizzards and had some weird experiences.

Petrolia was too far for that, so we rode the train from Kimball to Oil City, changed trains there for the trip to Petrolia and hurried through short cuts, arriving a bit late on Monday mornings.

We went home over the weekend but boarded during the week.”

(Maude Irene (McKay)  
Turnbull, 1914.)



## THE SPORTING TRADITION

From the early days it was obvious the school spirit and athletics went hand-in-hand. The following story appeared in the local paper on December 7, 1888:

**BEST AT RUGBY** -- The Sarnia Sun says: "A football team from the High School got laid out at Petrolia Saturday last by 8 to 0. The association game was played. The boys, however, think that at Rugby, their first love, they can demolish the Petroleans to a demonstration. Make connections, boys, before the snow flies." Come on McDuff, Petrolia will meet you at anything -- except small-pox.



Rugby Team 1895



Rugby Team 1904

Aughty Four, Aughty Four,  
The ripping, Roaring, H.S. Four,  
Rah! Rah! Rah! some more  
Rah! For Nineteen hundred & four  
Yell! Yell! Until you bust  
For we're leaving  
them in an awful muss





Champions of Town League, 1908  
 FRONT ROW - C.N. Peat, R. McRae, A. Collins, S.B. Polland, F. Fiddis, F. McGowan, B. Leader.  
 BACK ROW -- M.J. Broderick (Capt. Strathcovas), G.G. Moucrieff (Referee), R.G. Norman (Capt. Banhers)

Lambton High School  
 Hockey Champions 1923-24  
 BACK ROW -- N. Lindsay, C. Donald, W. Bryant, K. Tanton, B.E. Churchill (Manager)  
 MIDDLE ROW -- A. Thompson, Peter McKichan (Principal), R. Boges (Captain)  
 FRONT ROW -- L. Wilson, H. Howlett



Norris George Lindsay:  
 A school sports legend

... One may think that the football teams of today are tough and rugged! But imagine playing football in little more than slightly-padded pants, cleats and a jersey? That's the way Norris and his teammates played football in the Twenties. Shoulder pads were a rarity. Few had helmets and those were no more than two pieces of leather tied together with a string.

Not only was Norris an essential factor in high school football victories, he was the key player on the school hockey team. Norris recalls, (with much modesty) with great excitement even now, the 1927 hockey team on which his brother, Frank, played along with Arnold Thompson. They came so close to victory in the Senior WOSSA Hockey Championship finals only to be defeated by a strong Kitchener team which boasted of the likes of Schmidt and Heller, future NHL greats.

Football and hockey were demanding sports but once those seasons ended, Norris got out his shot-put and trained for competition. For three consecutive years, Norris Lindsay was the All-Ontario Shot-Put Champion, a feat few others ever achieved.

Norris paid the price for his sports activities. Playing many sports with equipment he had to supply himself, he suffered a broken nose on three separate occasions, had forty stitches sewn in his face but, remarkably, he avoided broken teeth or a busted jaw.

Sports had another element at P.H.S. in those days. The athletes were looked up to by the younger students and were counted on by the principal to set a good example, and, in a way, to 'police' the school. Comradeship, was strong among the athletes, a comradeship lasting to this day.

Written by Kevin Jacklin  
 1984 LCCVI student



## REMINISCENCES . . .

### JOHN BRAYBROOK AND VOLA (GREGORY) BRAYBROOK

. . . "I got involved with anything the school had to offer," was the reply I received when I asked Mr. John Braybrook about his participation in school activities. His wife, Vola Braybrook, formerly Gregory, similarly replied when approached with the same question saying, "I took part in all the school activities I could." The Braybrook school spirit is certainly very admirable but it doesn't stop at these activities. Everyday school was filled with the same eagerness to learn. During high school John participated in many sports and academic clubs. He played rugby for 5 years, won the Junior Athletic Championship medal in 1922 and the Senior Athletic Championship medal in both 1926 and 1927. John, also, participated readily in many academic clubs: The Literary Society, for instance, a club which plays and many other literary productions. John was president of this society during 1925-26 and was Sports Editor for the very first Petrolia high school yearbook in 1926. During his years in the Literary Soc. he was involved in the plays, "The Charm School" and "As you like it".

Vola was by no means inactive either throughout her high school days. She was form representative, much the same as our home room rep. today. She acted as Vice-President of the Literary Society for a couple of years. She, also, acted in the plays, "Daddy Long Legs" and the same Shakespearean play as her husband. She was in a musical, too. Vola was involved in sports. Playing basketball was one of her favourite pastimes. In her junior years, she was too shy to participate in athletic competitions but in 1923 she not only competed but won the Senior Girls' Athletic Championship medal.

"To get involved with anything life has to offer" seems to be the motto of both the Braybrooks. The result of their enthusiastic approach has been not only an extremely interesting life but a good one as well.

Written by Mark Smith  
1984 LCCVI student



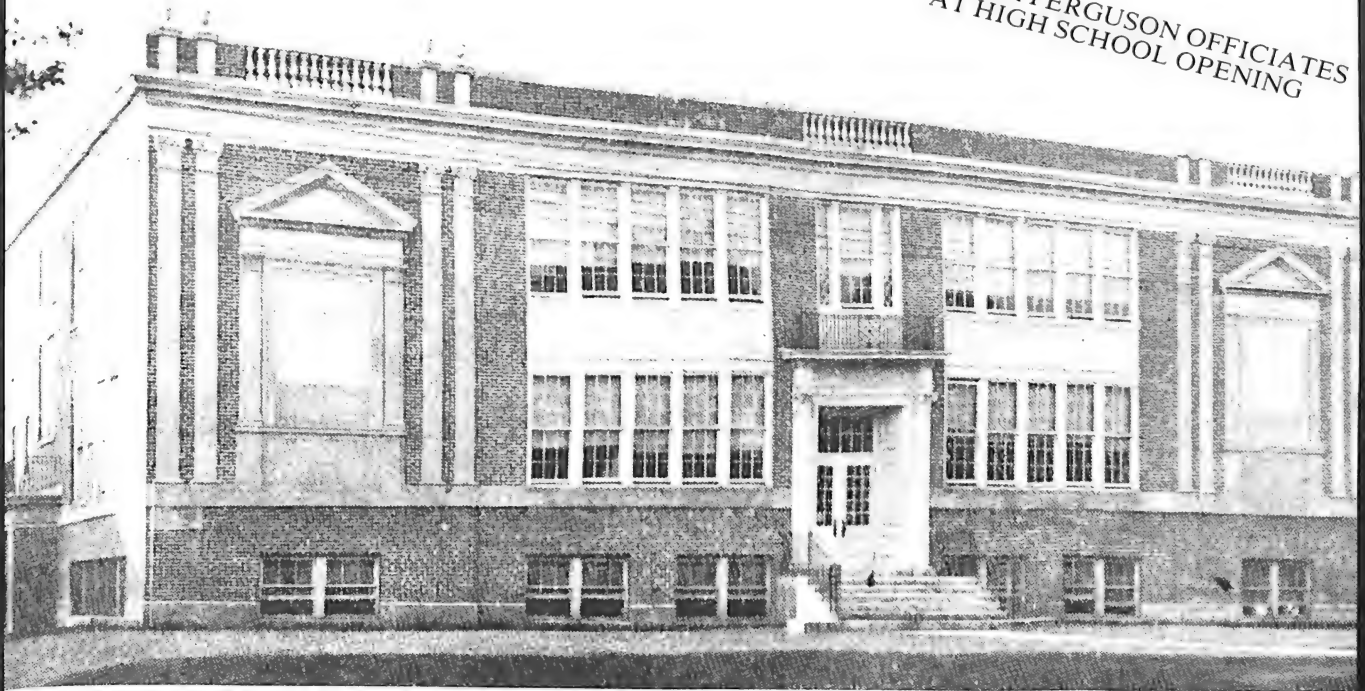
# 1926

In contrast to the opening of the first high school this second building's official opening was greeted with speeches, headlines, congratulatory messages, dinners and politicians. So much was written that all cannot be included in this summary of that day, Wednesday, October 6, 1926.

The afternoon program included speeches by such dignitaries as Mayor Dr. J.A. Drummond, Warden Fred Eastman of Arkona, Board Chairman John R. Clubb and Rev Wm. Rathby who conducted the dedication prayer.

The premier of Ontario, Hon. G. Howard Ferguson who was also the Minister of Education in his own cabinet addressed the gathering. His view on education was that "educational opportunities should be available as far as possible to everybody in the province." Besides outlining the duties of the Department of Education he proposed adding a fifth year to the Secondary school, a pre-university year, so that students could be spared an expensive year away at university. After the premier's speech there was an inspection tour of the school and a buffet lunch.

PREMIER FERGUSON OFFICIATES  
AT HIGH SCHOOL OPENING



In the evening J.B. Dale, chairman of the opening committee of the board of education, acted as chairman while a brief program was presented. Addresses relative to the occasion were given by Principal MacKichan, Milton J. McVicar, reeve of the township of Enniskillen: F.H. Gilroy, and W.G. Connolly of Watford. Mrs. Boyington gave a number of readings which merited considerable applause, and the solo by E.D. Fletcher was also well received. This was followed by a "High School Hop," in which the pupils, relaxing from their strenuous studies, danced to the syncopated melodies from the Black and White orchestra under the guidance of Vaughn Drope. The school was all lighted up for the event, and presented a very brilliant and attractive appearance. The attendance at night was, as during the afternoon, very large.

OCTOBER 6

CONGRATULATIONS  
TO THE ADVANCEMENT TOPIC, PETRO

TO 1939

## STAFF

"... and unless enthused in school work there is no use sending pupils to school.

Enthusiasm for work came directly from the teacher. In the early days, pupils were trained physically, but as time went on they got away from that, and it was character, moral strength that counted."

(from an address by G. Howard Ferguson, October 1926)



FRONT ROW: Miss M.A. Higginson, Mr. P. MacKichan, Miss E.M. Bannister, Mr. A.A. Birchard  
BACK ROW: Miss R.I. Jones, Miss M.C. McGugan, W.L. Oliver, Miss S.M. Fraser, Miss J.M. Young

The teaching staff of the Petrolia high school this year will be headed by principal Peter MacKichan, who has been teaching here since 1915. He is a graduate of Queens University and a science teacher. A.F. Birchard, formerly of Cornwall has charge of the commercial work. His assistant is W.L. Oliver of Petrolia. Miss R.L. Jones of Sarnia, a graduate of Western University and a master of arts, is teaching moderns and English. Miss Mary C. McGugan of Strathroy, a graduate of Queens University is teaching classics and history. Miss Eva Banister who obtained her B.A. in Toronto University is teaching mathematics and physics. Miss Sadie M. Fraser of Port Elgin, a college graduate will teach Junior Science and English while Miss Marion Young of Brigden will teach junior latin and history.

In athletics Misses Fraser and McGugan will look after the achievements of the girls while the boys will have as instructors, Mr. Appleyard and Mr. Oliver. Mr. Appleyard will also be the cadet instructor. W.H. Thompson is the janitor of the new school.

(from Sarnia Can. Observer)

# EDUCATION

Statistics show that a poorly educated workman, leaving public school at fourteen, earns an average of \$5,000 a year, totalling \$22,000 in his working life time . . . A high school graduate averages \$1,000 a year. Each day in high school adds \$25.00 to his life's earnings. University graduates (class of 1912) averaged an annual income of \$6,750 in 1922. Surely such an average income for an entire class, ten years after graduation, is ample evidence of the crash value of a college education. (1926)



## Benedictory

To the Members of the Graduating  
Classes—Upper School and Senior  
Commercial:

Due to the faithful application to school duties you graduate to a new and fuller field of usefulness. It is gratifying to learn that of this year's Class, twelve intend to pursue University Training.

With your advanced training, others may prosper by your superior Culture and Education in making to the world a contribution of enhanced value and efficiency, and may Grace be given you to attain that higher ideal.

In the Commercial World secure the best preliminary training, for with it, success is within your grasp.

In whatever field of Labour be assured of your Alma Mater's interest and affection for you.

(Signed)

PETER MacKICHAN,  
Principal of  
Petrolia High School.

## PRACTICAL TEST OF NEW COURSE GIVEN TRUSTEES

The members of the Petrolia Board of Education, with Mr. and Mrs. P. MacKichan, Mr. and Mrs. C.W. Young and representatives of the press were given the first practical demonstration of the work of the newly organized home economics course at the high school on Monday evening when they were treated to a luncheon under the direction of Miss Sadie M. Fraser, B.A. The luncheon was served by four members of the class: Misses Mary Lee Edward, Rosetta Aldred, Jean Duncan and Shirley MacKichan. The appreciation of the guests was expressed by Chairman Jack Gallivan, of the Board of Education, who intimated that an open night would be held shortly to give the general public an opportunity to inspect the equipment of the home economics and manual training departments of the school.



Helen Wilson - Why write with such haste?

Gertie - I've only got a bit of ink and I want to finish before it runs out.

# THE 20'S



The Petrolia High School Athletic Association  
requests the pleasure of the company of  
*Miss Bico McLaughlin*  
at an Easter Dance  
to be held in the High School Auditorium,  
on Wednesday, April the eleventh  
between twelve and two twenty-eight  
Dancing at 8.30 p.m.  
Tickets, per couple, \$1.50 (tax included). Extra lady, 25 cents.  
Patronesses:  
Mrs. J. H. Dale  
Mrs. M. H. McLaughlin  
Mrs. J. H. Hamilton  
Mrs. J. H. Saxon  
Mrs. H. Kirkpatrick  
Mrs. H. H. McDougall  
Mrs. J. H. Clubb  
Mrs. E. Tramm  
Mrs. H. G. M. Mackenzie



Girls' Hockey Team, 1927





Mr. Brown came to the school as janitor in 1910 and stayed until 1945. He was a friend of all the students and could call most of them by their first names. He was often seen cleaning the halls with his familiar pipe in his mouth. It is reported the teachers gave him a new pipe every year. And at Christmas, Bill as we all called him, received numerous cards from the students. In return he would leave a dish of rock candy for everybody to help themselves.



#### CAST OF PLAY

FIRST ROW -- L. Gascoine, R. McKenzie, J. Drummond. SECOND -- B. Ross, G. Craig, H. Truan, M. McDonald, J. Core, V. Gregory, M. Maddock. THIRD - J. Braybrook, J. Isber, J. Pepper, C. McHattie, D. Steadman, N. Rainsberry, H. Wilson, I. Truan. BACK - H. Kirkpatrick, D. McKellar, N. Lindsay, G. Minielly, R. Ship. MISSING -- M. Stapleton.

#### 1926 RUGBY TEAM (AT RIGHT)

FRONT: J. Isber, M. Stapleton, L. Wilson (capt.), J. Simpson, J. Braybrook, H. Kirkpatrick MIDDLE: J. Pepper, F. Lindsay, J. Dale, N. Lindsay, K. McLean, G. Drope, B. Maderly, W. Lawrence, A. Deacon BACK: Princ. P. MacKichan, C. McHattie, A. Thompson (mgr.), R. Boges, C.N. Peat (coach), M. McIntosh. MISSING: H. Howlett.

#### GIRLS' HOCKEY TEAM (AT LEFT)

BACK ROW -- M. Stuart, M. Kettle, Miss Jones, A. Morrison, G. Craig. FRONT ROW -- E. Harrison, I. Truan (Mgr.), L. Lawson, H. Wilson, H. Truan.

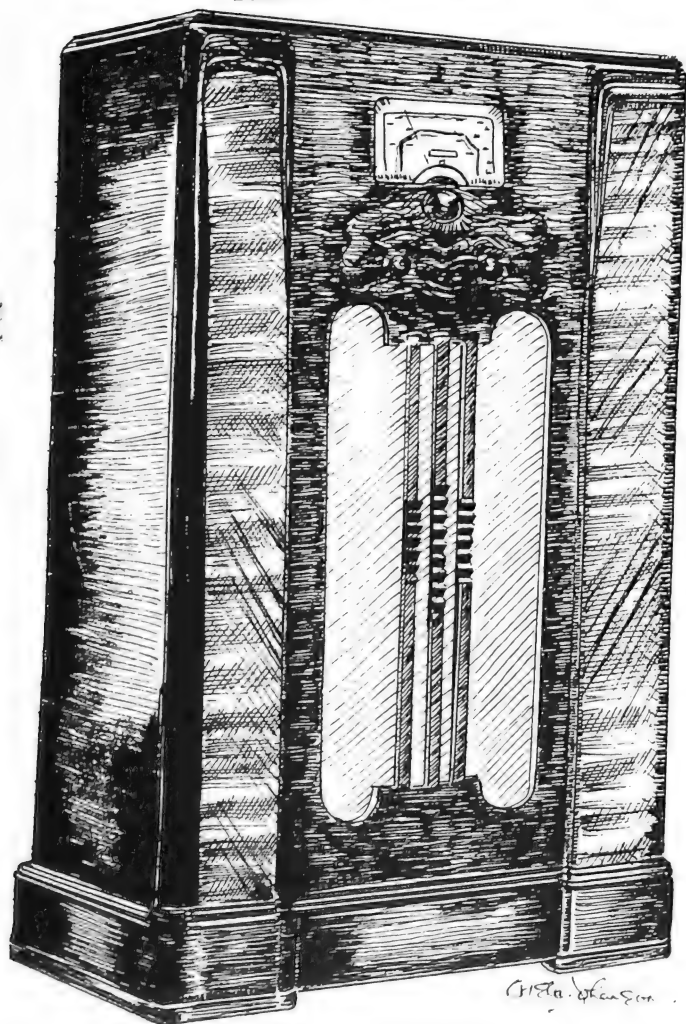


# THE 30'S

The good times were gone in an instant. The 'hungry thirties' brought despair, poverty, relief lines, hunger and hundreds of jobless wandering the countryside. The Dionne quintuplets became Canada's biggest tourist attraction. Girls were wearing brogues, midis and pleated skirts. We danced to the 'Big Band' sounds of Guy Lombardo, Percy Faith, Bert Niosi and many others. Roller skating was back and miniature golf courses sprang up all over. We stayed tune to our radio for 'The Happy Gang', Amos 'n Andy', etc.

New! Smart! Distinctive!  
**Pencil Stripe**  
**Worsted Suits**  
**\$28.50**

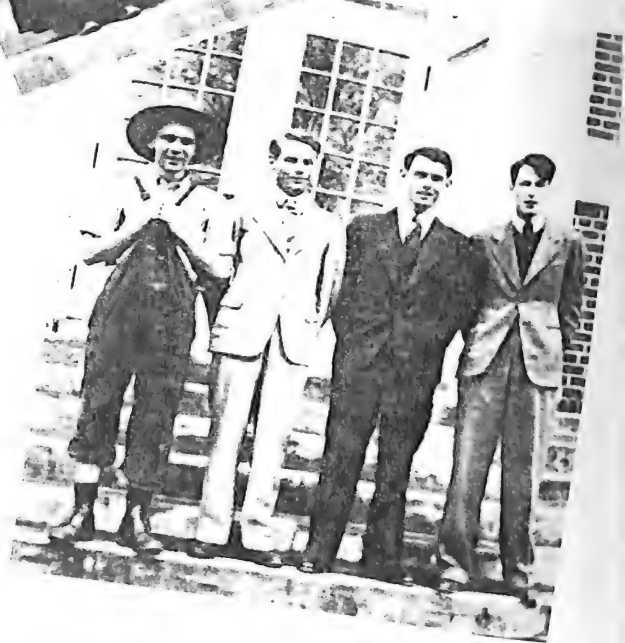
Here is an unusually good value in fine all-wool pencil stripe worsted suits. The Styles are new



## THE DEPRESSION



## SCHOOL PLAYS







1932  
PLAY  
'BABS'

Giving Good Value Sure Has Brought Big Business to

SUPERIOR STORES	
Special Nutmeg 10 lbs. 55c	Special DING SUGAR 3 lbs. 25c
Christmas Soda (HAS A RED) Sifted. Pkg. 18c	Special RUMAN MEAL fresh stock. Pkg. 31c
Special Peppermint Shortening Lb. 19c	SUPERIOR TEA Orange Pekoe, Lb. 79c
Special Ginger Nutmeg 2 lbs. 25c	Special Economy Lb. 59c
Carnation or Borden's MILK, large 2 lbs. 25c	Special POWDER, BAKING quality, confectionery 29c

### Harry Kerby

A swat across the head - that made more of an impression on a high school student in 1937 than do the detentions, lines and suspensions students today receive for infractions of the rules. At least, that's the belief of Harry Kerby as he looks back on the 30's at P.D.H. Most of the teachers were very strict compared to teachers today, and being a comparatively small town, the teachers could easily find out about any students after school or weekend activities and the students, upon returning to the school would often receive disciplinary actions.

Written by Brian Burns  
1984 LCCVI student



In 1930 Mr. A.J. Husbank inspector of High Schools gave every part of the building grade one except the classrooms. They got grade two because there were no pictures (from the June Advertiser Topic)

George & Dorothy (Blackstock) Mathers  
Ross & Mary Louise (Gadsby) Piggott



## SCHOOL DAYS IN





## THE 30'S





# SPORTS

## SPORTS IN THE 30'S

Girls participated in basketball and track & field.

Boys' sports included basketball, rugby, and track & field. An annual track meet was held with Strathroy, Watford, Forest, and Glencoe. Because of the Depression, travel was restricted, and there were few other interschool events.



GREEN & WHITE  
COLOURS



In 1932, Blanche Peer (later Winter) came to P.H.S. as a gym and French teacher. A vibrant person, she created quite a stir, as she floated through the halls in her tunic, leotards, gown and ballet slippers.

How many remember her Morris Minor car? She would load it to the roof with students and drive to Greenwood Park for track and field and to WOSSA Basketball games. It must have been a forerunner of crowding into telephone booths.



1936 BASKETBALL

P.H.S. SONG  
By Blanche Peer

Let us shout for old Petrolia  
The best of schools as you will all agree  
Let us shout for old Petrolia  
It will always be the only High for me



1930 FOOTBALL

And let your voices raise  
And as we sing her praise  
And on to victory  
Raise the standards  
Let the colours fly  
For good old Petrolia High

1931 WOSSA HOCKEY TEAM IN STRATFORD FINALS

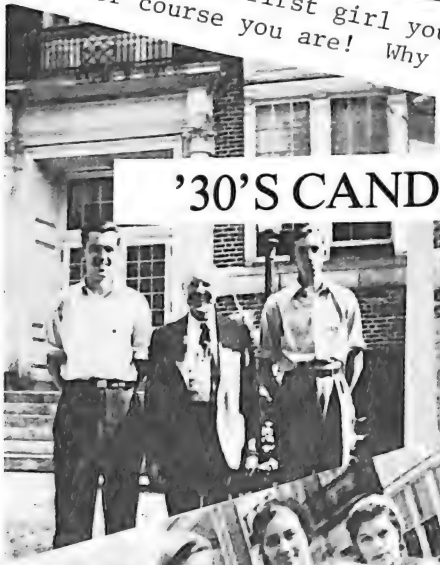


Bob & Helen (Albright) Jackson  
Max C. Wilson Wm. D. Brittain



She: Am I the first girl you ever kissed?  
 He: Of course you are! Why is it that you girls all ask the same question?

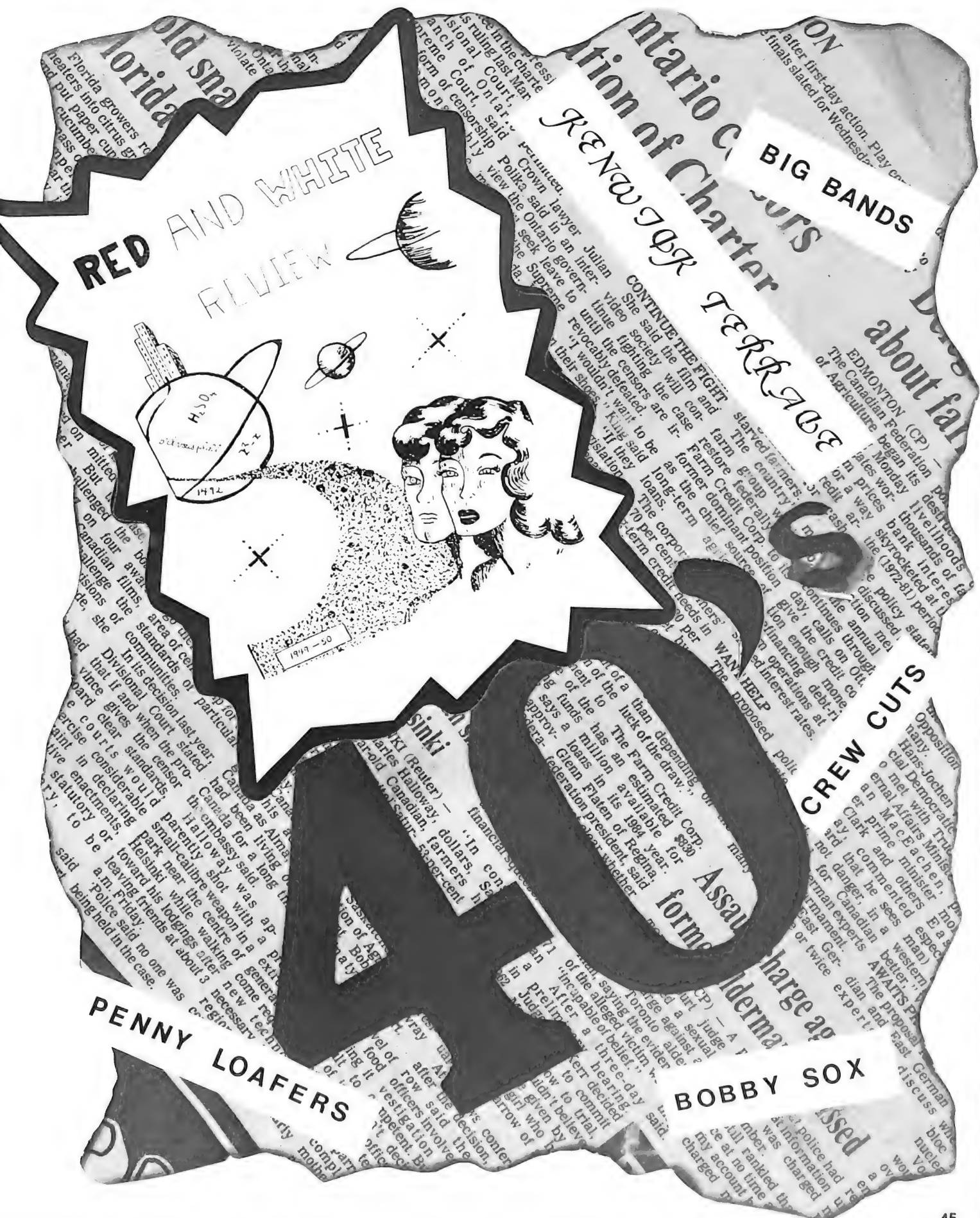
# '30'S CANDIDS



Miss McGugan - Give the principal parts of slay.  
 Isber (just coming to) sleigh, box, runners, seat and ---







RED AND WHITE  
REVIEW

Ontario Charter  
BIG BANDS

about fall

CREW CUTS

Assault  
former charge ag

BOBBY SOX

PENNY LOAFERS

Sinki



BACK ROW: J. Bowden, R. Jones, E. Bannister, S. Fraser, R. Stephenson. FRONT ROW: E. Rose, P. MacKichan (Principal), B. Peer, I. McMullen.

## STAFF



BACK ROW: R. Stephenson, C. Brogden, T. Priest, K. Rumley, M. McKinley, I. Rhodes, H. Dukelow, A. Harding, J. Strobl. FRONT ROW: M.L. Edward, S. Fraser, E. Lorne Fox (Principal), R. Jones, T. McIver, E. Rose.



Blanche (McPhedran) Duncanson  
Chuck & Deb (Dixon) Scott



# TRANSPORTATION



Zelma M. (Luker) Horvath  
Dick & Janet (Van Rooyen) Bradley

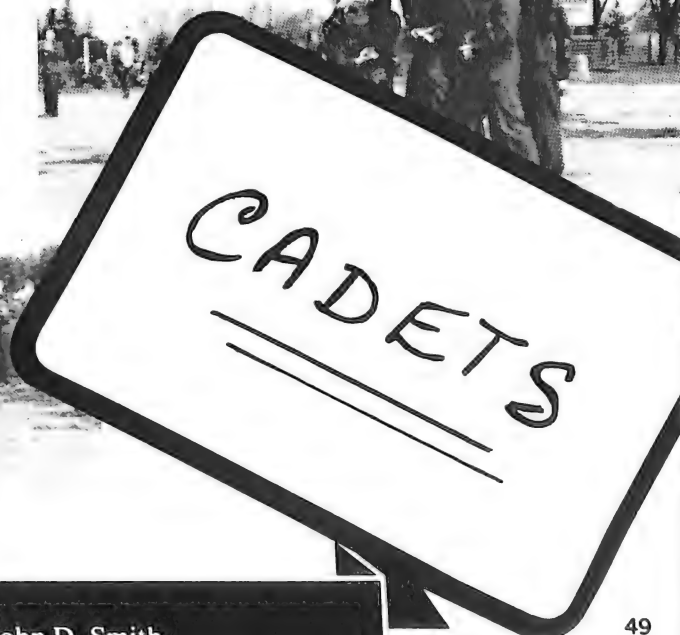




REMEMBER

THESE





Jill-Marie and Colleen Burke  
Robert & Marcia Bain / John D. Smith







# S P O R T S







STUDENTS



ENROLIA DISTRICT HIGH SCHOOL



1940's

# CANDIDS





1950 -



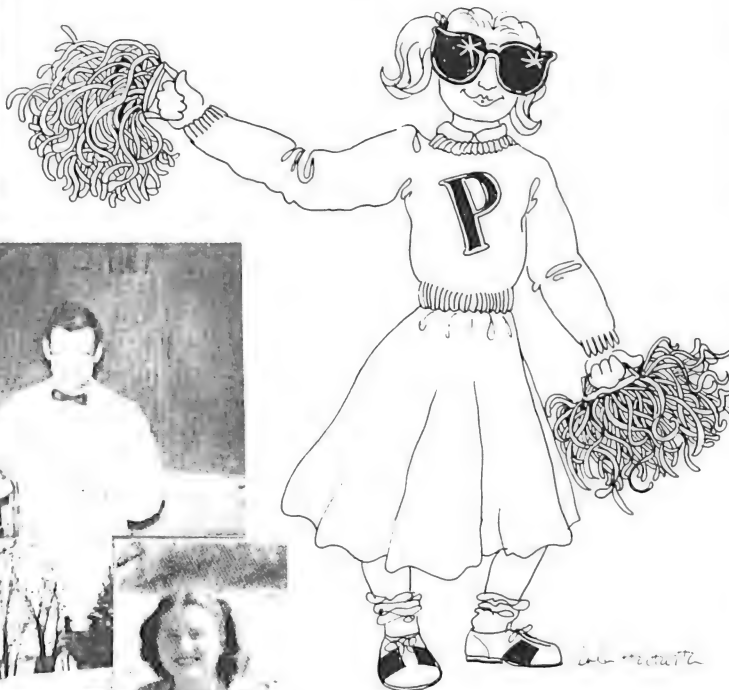
E. Lorne Fox



J.B. Wallace



F.D. Sawyer



- 1959

## 1950 - HOUSE ACTIVITIES - 1951

By Leone Luno

Another year has rolled around and with this year comes the new "Red and White Review."

Due to the fact of the great overcrowding of students, the school adopted a new system in place of the student council.

The entire student body was equally divided into four groups called houses. Each of the houses elected its own President, Vice-President, Secretary-Treasurer and an Assistant Councillor. From each house the President, Vice-President and Assistant Councillor formed a head council or Student Council. Again executives were elected. This head council was given full authority over the houses.

THE CALF CLUB

TRACTOR CLUB

CAMERA CLUB

WEAVING CLASSES

LEATHERCRAFT CLUBS

FORESTRY CLUB

SEED FAIR

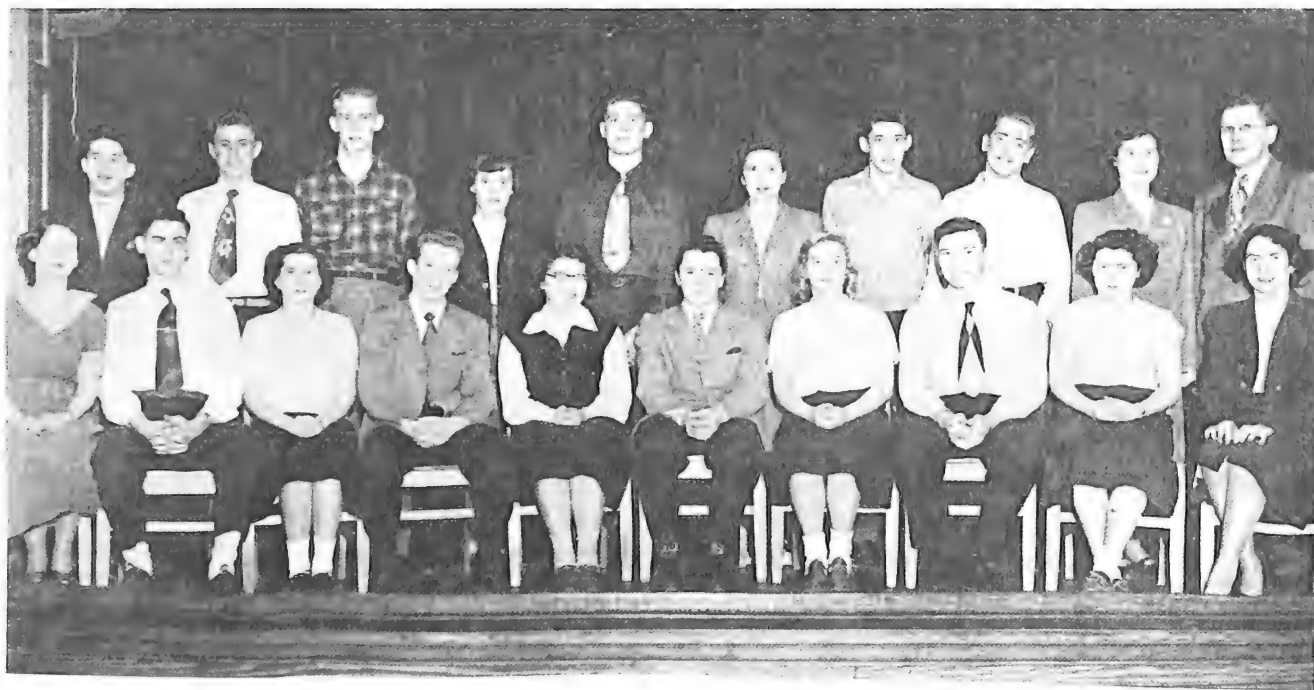
DRAMA CLUB

"H.M.S. PINAFORE"

SOCIETAS LATINA

FRENCH CLUBS

## HOUSE EXECUTIVES



FRONT ROW (L. TO R.) - M. McKinley, Ken. McGregor, Gayle Richmond, Norm. Sutherland, Pauline Kovachik, Dave Stauff, Leone Luno, Fred Scott, June Thompson, T. McIver. BACK ROW (L. TO R.) - J. Strobl, Jim Wolsey, George Hext, Ann Bradshaw, Jim Maitland, Doris Munroe, Wayne Hyatt, Stu. O'Brien, Muriel Metcalf, H. Dukelow.



# Annual Commencement

TOWN HALL, PETROLIA

Thursday, Friday and Saturday,  
December 14, 15 and 16, 1950



**Petrolia District High School**

presents

**"H.M.S. Pinafore"**

Written by Sir W. S. Gilbert. Composed by Sir Arthur Sullivan  
Director: Miss Kay Rumley. Pianist: Audrey Lewis

## DRAMATIS PERSONAE

The Rt. Hon. Sir Joseph Porter, K.C.B.	Stewart O'Brien
Captain Corcoran (Commanding H.M.S. Pinafore)	Kenneth McGregor
Ralph Rackstraw (Able Seaman)	Bill Doman
Dick Deadeye (Able Seaman)	Bruce McCallum
Bill Becket (Carpenter's Mate)	Keith Callander
Tom Tucker (Midshipmite)	Harold Shabsove
Josephine (The Captain's Daughter)	Lois Gray
Hebe (Sir Joseph's First Cousin)	Kathryn Brittain
Mrs. Cripps (Little Buttercup)	Betty Jay

### ACT I — NOON

### ACT II — NIGHT

**Chorus of Sisters, Cousins and Aunts:** Mary Ann Artiss, Lorna Begg, Ann Bradshaw, Jean Cameron, Joanne Campbell, Betty Chalk, Kathleen Cunningham, Joan Dawson, Shirley Duncan, Joan Evans, Shelagh Fitzgerald, Donna Font, Jeanne Guest, Donna Helps, Peggy Hull, Joan Johnston, Norcen Kells, Marg. Kewley, Donna King, Pauline Kovachik, Ramona Laasaline, Helen Lewis, Kathryn McCall, Gwen McCormick, Jo McCormick, Jean McDougall, Frances Metcalfe, Joan Minnice, Eleanor Moran, Doris Munro, Helen Park, Roma Richmond, Helen Smith, Sherry Whiting.

**Chorus of Sailors:** Rod Arnold, Gary Bidner, Bruce Dewhirst, George Henderson, Wayne Hyatt, Bill Johnston, Ron Marriott, Leo Morningstar, Don Pierce, Wayne Roberts, Carl Shain, George South, David Stauff, Allan Ward, Ron. Warwick.

## MUSICAL DOUBLE TALK

Sleepy Time Guy . . . . . Ron Clark in Book-keep'g  
Slow Poke . . . . . 12B in English  
I Still Feel the Same About You . . . . . Exams  
It's a Long Way . . . . . To 5th Form  
The Wang Wang Blues . . . . . Mr. Sawyer's Office  
Sometime . . . . . Finished Homework  
Secret Love . . . . . Spare without a teacher  
Everything to Lose and Nothing

to Gain . . . . . Detentions  
Smoke Gets in Your Eyes

. . . . . Men Teachers' Room  
Broken Hearted . . . . . Failure in Science  
Moulin Rouge (Red Mill) . . . . . P.D.H.S.

"You poor man," said Jackie Pettit. "Here's a quarter. How terrible to be lame!"

"Yes ma'am," said the tramp. "It is."

"But just think how much worse it would be if you were blind," said Jackie.

"That's no kiddin'," agreed the tramp. "Last year when I was blind, I was always getting lead quarters."



# MUSIC MUSIC MUSIC MUSIC

Ken & Darlene (Shannon) Melton  
Dorothy (Arnold) Tennyson



The official opening of the Petrolia District High School Annex  
Tuesday, April 29, 1952.



# SENIOR GIRLS



# BASKETBALL

FRONT ROW (L-R): Yvonne Luno, Frances Metcalfe, Verna Barnes, Barbara Little (Capt.), Bonnie Loosemore, Roma Richmond. BACK ROW (L-R): J. McCuaig (Coach), Sherry Whiting, Joan Tomlinson, Glenda McKenzie, Helen Randall, Dorothy Telfer, Rosemary Case, Pauline Metcalfe.



# GRADE X SCIENCE CLASS



# TEACHING STAFF



1951 TO 1952

FRONT ROW (L-R): N. Hazen, E. Rose, J. Strobl, R. Jones, F.D. Sawyer (Principal), S. Fraser, A. Buckle, M. McKinley, A. Harding. BACK ROW (L-R): E. Stewart, C. Brogden, J. McCuaig, E. Swallow, I. Nickels, C. Stager, M. Higgins, P. Hennessy, F. Walley.



## FAREWELL

We are this year bidding farewell to a highly-esteemed member of the teaching staff of the Petrolia District High School - Miss R.L.L. Jones, M.A. It is difficult to imagine our school without Miss Jones, who has, for so many years, taught the Senior French and English classes so efficiently, and has devoted herself so unstintingly to the success of her pupils.

Both staff and student body have long felt and appreciated the kindly influence for good exerted by Miss Jones and regret that her retirement is at hand.

May we, through the pages of the Red and White Review extend to Miss Jones our sincere wish, that in retirement she may have many years of happiness, health and leisure, a reward indeed well earned!



Wash them out  
Wring them out  
Hang them on the line  
We can beat them any old time



Newly Installed Bleachers?



Boy Cheerleaders -- Believe It!

David & Sheila Hewett, Staff  
Mrs. Lewis Cotter Gleeson





SPECIAL COMMERCIAL -- FIRST GRADUATING CLASS  
JUNE 1953



### SCHOOL SONG

We're from Petrolia, Petrolia High  
We sing her praises up to the sky  
Anything we ever try  
Takes us onward to Victory.

Bring on the winners; they are our pride!  
In dear old Petrolia, we all abide  
While our worthy foe's do sigh,  
We go onward to Victory.

The sweater hop is the first of its kind to be held in many years at P.D.H.S. This dance was a great success. The variety dances included the ever-popular Bunny Hop, Spot Dance, Elimination Dance, and Balloon Dance. Some of the winners were Jackie Pettitt with her partner, Douglas Lewis, and Miss Kraft with Mr. Miller.

Petrolia District High School  
Petrolia, Ont.

STUDENT IDENTIFICATION  
CARD  
1953 - 1954

*Joyce Logan*  
STUDENT'S SIGNATURE

The At Home Ball was held on February 26. A tremendous amount of work went into the preparations, but the success of the evening compensated the labour.

The captain of the Queen Mary would have felt right at home in this dance. The windows of the breeze-way were decorated with anchors and life guards. A false ceiling, of blue and white crepe paper, was made for the auditorium. Under the lights in the baskets, hung clusters of tinfoil bubbles. The side walls were decked with sail boats. At the back of the stage was a large sign with a red background on which the words "Welcome to the At Home Dance of 54", were printed in gold letters. The crowning part of the decorations was the lighthouse placed in the middle of the floor, from which a pale blue light glowed. The decorating committee for the auditorium was under the direction of Joanne Moore.



SNOW QUEEN MARG SMITH  
 Jenny Dewitt, Mary K. Butler, Jill Pollard, Gwen McGregor  
 RED AND WHITE STAFF -- EDITOR -- BILL JOHNSTON



Bev & Linda (Dundas) Byers  
 Mona (Rawson) Gudjurgis



CAST OF THE OPERETTA  
"TRIAL BY JURY"

MARCH 25  
1954

## REMINISCENCES . . . LARRY AND JIM CHURCHILL

Today, as you walk through the halls of Lambton Central Collegiate and Vocational Institute you would see grades 9, 10 and 12 students in animated discussion about the football team or the next school dance. Back in the 1950's, however, this was not the case. Mr. Larry Churchill, a science teacher now on the staff of his alma mater, and who attended Lambton Central from 1954 to 1960, says that the younger students stayed in their own little cliques and the older students in theirs. When his younger brother, Jim, now an elementary teacher, came to school in 1959, he hardly associated with him at all. He didn't do this out of embarrassment, he states, but just because that was customary.

When these two men attended school, there was a jump from 400 to 1000 students, most of whom had brush cuts, wore light brown, casual, khaki slacks and cardigans. The girls wore long, pleated, plaid skirts with a pin in the front, white anklesocks and saddleshoes.

Both men were very athletic and excelled in every sport in which they participated. Each was quarterback on the football team at one point, and played basketball and volleyball. Then, L.C.C.V.I. didn't compete against Sarnia schools but versus Parkhill, Chatham and Wallaceburg.

Students today have something the Churchill boys did not have - a variety of courses to choose from. Mathematics, English, Science and History were compulsory as they are now, but Music, Art and Outdoor Education were not available. No spares were allowed until Grade 13.

Major construction was being done when the Churchill brothers were here. The gymnasium was just being built and the entire east wing was under construction.

A new breed of young teachers were flocking into the school system at that time. They were more strict and not as open as the teachers of today. Larry said that this new group gave him the inspiration to become a teacher himself. They liked most of their teachers, but a few that stand out in their minds are Mr. King, Mr. Maxime and Miss Stewart.

When it came time for lunch, Larry went to the cafeteria where the food was said to be good and the prices were reasonable. Jim always went home for lunch.

On the weekend there was an occasional sock-hop, a film at the Iroquois Theatre in town and a chance to shoot a little pool at the pool-hall. There was no arena but when you got your drivers' license you usually went to Sarnia and Grand Bend.

Twenty years later, both Larry and Jim remember with fondness their school days at L.C.C.V.I.

written by Dave Elsley  
1984 LCCVI student



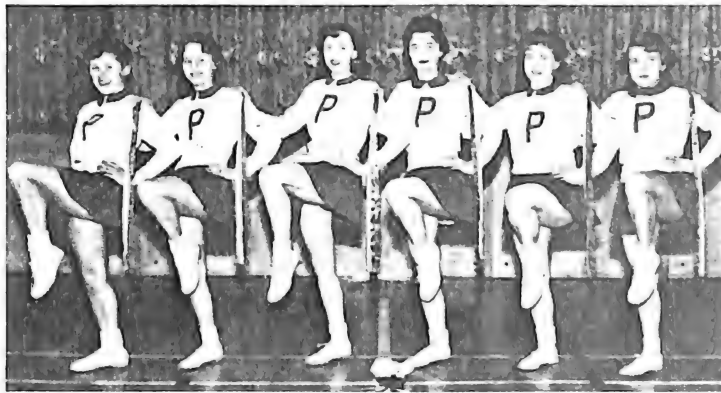


#### BOYS' CHOIR

(L-R): Mr. Hazen, Wray Lamb, Doug Taylor, Len Dawson, Doug Hosking, Lee Taylor, Fred Douglas, Gabe Verstichelen, John Stinson, Wes Pederson. ABSENT: Don Rawson, John Ringwood, John Snopko.

#### REMEMBER WHEN?

- Exam marks were published in the Petrolia "Advertiser Topic" for everyone to see!
- The railway track was the unofficial smoking area!
- Bill Haley, Elvis Presley, and Pat Boone were "Rocking & Rolling"!



#### CHEERLEADERS

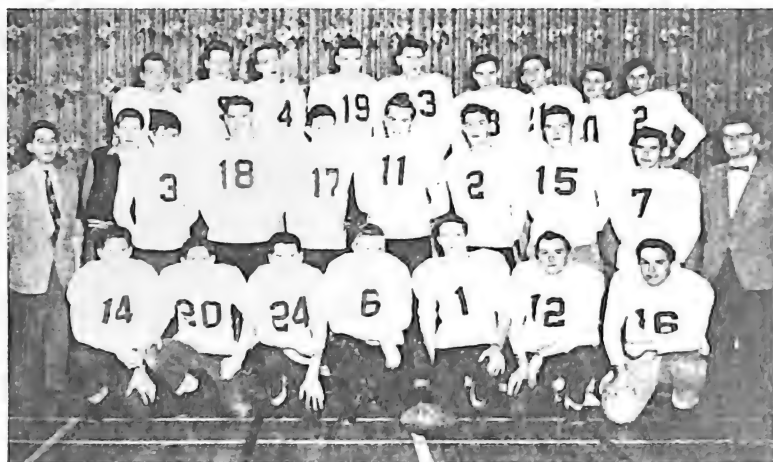
(L-R): Anne Janicek, Kerry Minnice, Bev Wells, Jeananne Andrew, Colleen Maitland, Marg Steinburgh.



#### THE SCHOOL BAND



Percy & Helen (Russell) Parker  
Robert & Ruth (Ikert) Hussey



#### MODEL GIRL OF P.D.H.S.

1. Clothes of Joyce Chapman.
2. Physique of Donna Taylor.
3. Hair of Cathy Dawson.
4. Eyes of Frances Moran.
5. Smile of Kerry Minnice.
6. Dimples of Noreen Brown.
7. Friendliness of Bev. Wells.
8. Personality of Colleen Maitland.
9. Intelligence of Margaret Bradshaw.
10. Musical Ability of Noreen Logan.
11. Athletic Ability of Mary Lou Smith.
12. Wittiness of Bonnie Brown.



Bobby Sox and Saddle Shoes.  
Guess whose legs!



#### SENIOR GIRLS' BASKETBALL TEAM

FRONT ROW, L. TO R. - Anne Janicek, Mary Lou Slack, Nancy Ann McKenzie, Kay Simpson, Faye Waters, Glenda Pelkie. BACK ROW, L. TO R. - Mr. Strobl (coach), Jean Hartley, Mary Lou Smith, Mary Jane Shannon, Janice Green, Alice Smith, Miss Loosemore (coach).



12-A

BACK ROW, L. TO R. - Jack Berdan, Ron Norris, Doug. Whitlock, Jack Bishop, Henk Both, John Moore, Dave Brand. MIDDLE ROW, L. TO R. - Ralph Cameron, Glen Bicknell, Ron Dillon, Bill Lackie, Doris Rose, Bev. Wells, Jeananne Andrew, Noreen Logan, Leo Ryan, Bob Hibbert, Tieman Korvenmaker. FRONT ROW, L. TO R. - Miss Cook (teacher), Anne McLachlin, Maxine Brooks, Donna Barnes, Donna Rippin, Betty Rowe, Betty Davis, Mary Jane Shannon, Gail Dalziel, Beth Shannon.

#### YEAR OF THE EDESEL and "THE FINS"

#### MODEL BOY OF P.D.H.S.

1. Clothes of Ross Pettit.
2. Physique of Larry Churchill.
3. Hair of Ron Barnes.
4. Eyes of Doug. McDonald.
5. Smile of Bert Shannon.
6. Dimples of Ralph Holmes.
7. Friendliness of Ron. Marsh.
8. Personality of Leo Ryan.
9. Intelligence of Jack Bishop.
10. Musical Ability of Ron. Atkey.
11. Athletic Ability of Jim Scott.
12. Wittiness of Ron Fraleigh.





In the make-up room -- Gerritt Tenhoeve as "Abigail McSkew" assisted by Mrs. Stevenson and Mrs. Maxim. Looking on are Betty Isber and Joanne Vandenbroek who also assisted.



Special Commercial group eating lunch at the London Life Cafeteria.



Which way did he go?



High "C" anyone?



I got 'em here.



# VALEDICTORIANS 1950-1959



Hugh McKellar



Shirley Saunders



Jo McCormick

Maxine  
Brooks



Betty Jay



Mary Coke

Audrey Lewis



Miss Bradshaw accepts her diploma from her father,  
Mr. Wm. Bradshaw, a member of the H. S. Board



Ralph  
Johnston



Pauline Kovachik



Jim Kimmerly

Through the combined efforts of the Student Council, Athletic Association, and music groups, P.D.H.S. was able to purchase a high fidelity set which now graces the stage in the gymnasium and in our music room.

The set was designed and built by Jim Kimmerly, a former student of P.D.H.S. For the past few years, Jim has been the disc jockey for many of our school dances.

Jack & Ruth, Wendy and Brenda Kerby  
Nancy C. Gadsby

1960



TO 1969

# STAFF

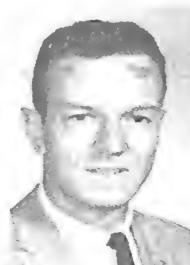
Mr. Sawyer  
Mr. Cassin  
Mr. King  
Mr. McCurdy  
Mr. Brohman  
Miss Nickels



Miss McKinley  
Mr. Whitham  
Mr. Elsley  
Miss Skakel  
Mr. DeSadeleer  
Mr. Stephenson



Mr. Evans  
Mr. Griffiths  
Miss Elford  
Mr. Zavitz  
Mr. Walker  
Mr. Eberle



Mr. Rogers  
Mrs. E. Clelland  
Mr. Levesque  
Mr. McLean  
Mrs. Stevenson  
Mr. Weston



Mr. McLinchey  
Mr. Robinson  
Mr. Ballantine  
Miss Hodgson  
Mr. Malvern  
Mr. Brown



Mr. Kennedy  
Mr. Hazen  
Miss Stewart  
Mr. Syer  
Mr. Legue  
Mr. Cameron



Jim McClung & Diane (McClung) Lewis  
Jack & Velma (Shaw) Churchill / Diane O'Dell





Mr. Maxim  
Miss McGugan  
Mr. Allen  
Mr. Paquette  
Mr. McClung  
Mr. Churchill



Mr. DesJardine  
Mr. Whiting  
Mrs. Randall  
Mr. Newell  
Mrs. (Bishop) Inglis  
Mr. Inglis



Mr. Coveney  
Mr. Zimmerman  
Miss McDivit  
Mrs. Maxim  
Mr. Doyle  
Mr. Sutton



Mrs. Lennon  
K. Dowes  
Mr. Addie  
Mr. J. Hillier  
Mrs. Desaulniers  
Mr. Bass



Mr. Randall  
Mr. VanStralen  
Miss McCaffrey  
Mrs. Dailey  
Miss Scott  
Mr. Marsh



Mr. Gardner  
Mrs. Anderson  
Mr. Massie  
Mr. Milson

SOME SIXTIES STAFF  
as we knew them!  
Turk, Silver Fox, Long John,  
Jingles, Cuddles, Doc, Sarge,  
Curly, Bucky Beaver, Mr.  
Wizzard, Swamp, Rifle Ruby,  
Toad, Hammerhead, Mickey





"MIKADO"



"OKLAHOMA"



"PIRATES OF  
PENZANCE"



"OKLAHOMA"



"TRIAL BY JURY"

DRAMA AND OPERETTAS



"L'IL ABNER"

"MIKADO"



"SOUND OF MUSIC"



"BRIGADOON"





# SPORTS

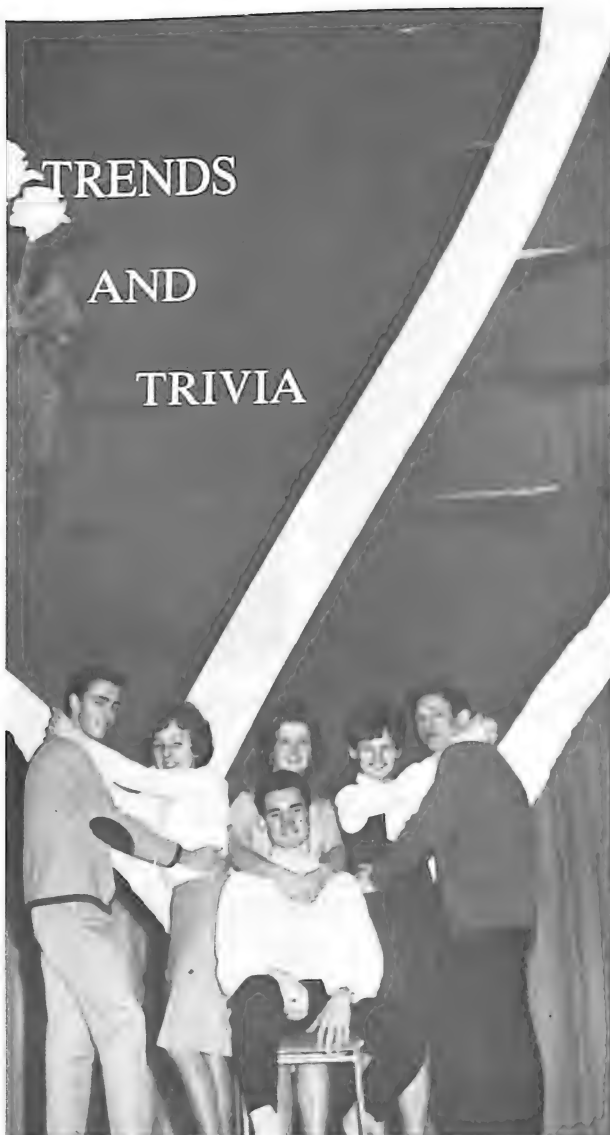
John & Moira Elsley / Stan Scott  
Tony & Willie (Vandenbroek) Franssen



# SPORTS



C. Marvin & H. Maude Rogers  
Mrs. Kathleen (Cooper) Blacklock





James & Valerie Cassin  
Patricia (Miller) Wills



## AND MORE TRENDS AND TRIVIA



STEPHENSON BROS.

RED AND WHITE MARKET

BEAVER LUMBER, PETROLIA

HOWARD'S FURNITURE

THE CAKE BOX

HOWARD'S FURNITURE

SPIC AND SPAN CLEANERS

GLOBE GLASS SATURATORS LTD.

CREST HARDWARE

BOGES BROTHERS

## DUTIES OF STUDENTS



**General Health:** The alertness of the student is in great measure due of his physical well being: Insist that the student get plenty of sleep (8-10 hours)



A proper balance of homework, rest and recreation should be maintained

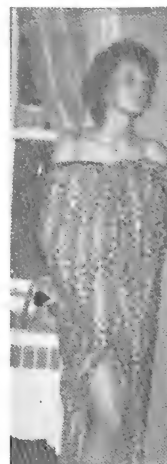


### THE LOCKER COMBINATION IS NOT TO BE DIVULGED

Please keep lockers clean and neat. The only papers which may be posted in the interior of lockers are timetables. If the locker is hard to close, notify the office. Do not kick it to close it! Please do not deface the surface of the lockers. Wilful damage will be charged to the student. You are not permitted to visit your locker between periods, except before and after Phys. Ed.

Students at L.C.C.V.I. are expected to exhibit care and good taste in dress and appearance, so as to reflect favourably upon themselves, their parents and the school.

Students are expected to show courtesy at all times to staff members whether teaching, secretarial, janitorial or cafeteria. Inability of a student to observe these common rules of courtesy will be assumed to be an indication that the student intends to withdraw from the school.



## REMEMBER THESE SPONSORS?

TOBIAS' RESTAURANT

RICHARDSON SHOES

B. MADERY MARKET,

LONDON BROS.

JACKSON'S DRUG STORE

BISHOP BROS. RED AND WHITE STORE

Carole Weatherstone  
Brian & Kathy Marsh



## REMINISCENCES . . .

### HELEN TOBIAS

. . . To WIN the WOSSA gold medal, you would have to be in great shape. This came easy for Mrs. Helen Tobias (Stevenson) who everyday had to walk 6 miles to and from school. She says she doesn't understand why people have to be bused these days, when years ago she made it to the east end from Marthaville in good time. Some of the people who went to Petrolia High School lived in town, of course, and some from the north and south came in on the train but the majority had to walk. Just the opportunity to go to school made up for the miles they covered Helen said. When she started to high school in the 1920's she went to Jubilee school and 2 years later when PHS opened it's doors, everyone transferred here from the east end. This new school, built in 1926, was bigger and much better than Jubilee and was now also in a better location. It had more rooms and even a gymnasium that is presently used as our art room. It was small, but more than they had before in the other school. Mr. MacKichan, the principal, kept order over his 100-150 students along with some of the teachers' help.

In those days it wasn't hard to keep order; teachers didn't have to put up then with what they do today, she summarized. Another 2 years were spent at PHS with commercial subjects and Helen finished school after grade 12. There was grade 13 also but when she thought about it, she thought most went only to grade 12. She went on to say she enjoyed high school, but living in Marthaville didn't give her too much of a chance to participate in extra-curricular activities like alot of the other students did. She said she was never very interested in basketball or joining any of the clubs but one thing she excelled in was track and field.

Written by Deanna Huff  
1984 LCCVI student



### JOYCE AND FRED KELLY

"The war times were tough on us kids," stated Joyce Kelly formerly Joyce Bygrove.

"We weren't offered much but we made our own fun," added her husband and former classmate Fred.

The 'Push n' Shove' at ten cents a dance was a popular hangout for the Kelly's and their high school pals. The teenagers of Petrolia tripped the 'Light Fantastic' at the 'Push n' Shove' almost every weekend. Other than that there was only one or two sweater hops at the high school with the jukebox borrowed for the occasion from 'Tony's Restaurant.'

In the 1940's thirty-five cents could buy you a ticket to the 'Iroquois Theater' - the home of such greats as Shirley Temple, Clark Gable, John Wayne, and Kathryn Hepburn. That magnificent team of Fred Astaire and Ginger Rogers were seen tapping their way across the screen and into the hearts of Petrolia teenagers on numerous occasions. And if you liked adventure there was always Roy Rogers, and Dale Evans taming the "Wild West".

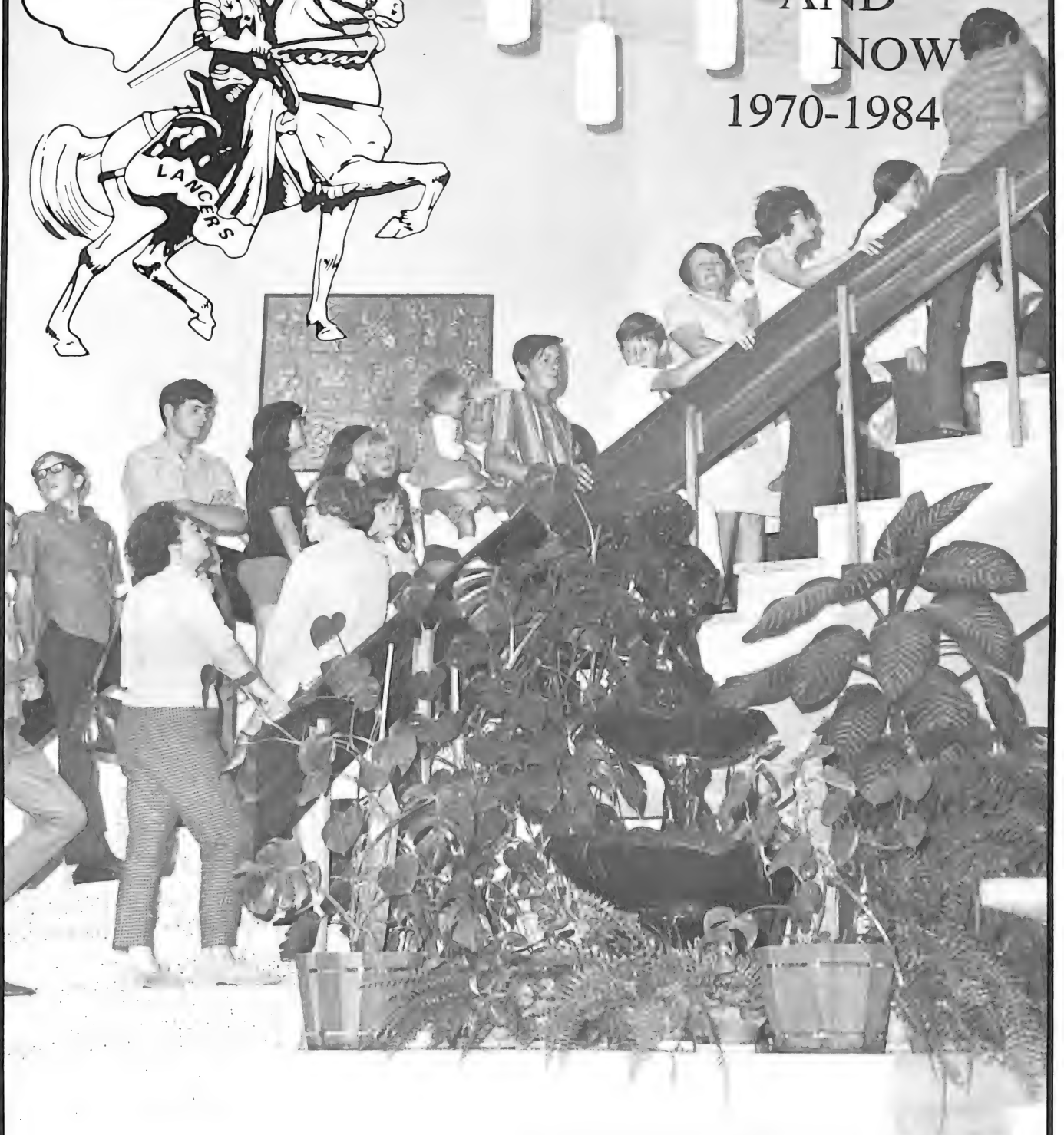
Written by Denise Hands  
1984 LCCVI student



Pat (Stinson) Misselbrook  
Bros. Harold and the late Charles Winter



HERE  
AND  
NOW  
1970-1984



# STAFF PHOTO

BOTTOM LEFT TO RIGHT: Allison Carter, Irma Rocca, Marilyn Walker, Irene Kiaupa, Evelyn Dailey, Karen Hill, Carolyn Godfrey, Marilyn Cashabeck, Mait Edgar (V.P.), Jim Cassin (P.) "Silver fox", Fred McNaught (V.P.), Dorothy Stevenson, Betty Ellenor, Dorothy Graham, Jacquie Clarke, Sherry Graham, Lee Jakes, Mary Inglis, Carol Clothier

ROW TWO: Bernie Hendrickson, Ernie Wetson, Stan Jarvis, Sheila Hewett, Audrey Hendrickson, Shannon Bolton, Judy App, Carol Young, Mary Ann Ruypers, Kathy Stamm, Sharon Bie, Jane Freeman, Diane Boyd, Ann Carr, Lois Desaulniers, Rosanne Orcutt, Barb Garrett, Sue McGuire, Ralph Catennaci, Glenn Small, Tony Frankland



good meals

From left to right: Bonnie Battle, Anne Crnkovich, Delorse Healy, Geraldine Duffy, Mary Whiting.



Lorraine Weese, Hilda Breckenridge, Donna Varga

Barbara Ellenor, Anne Wagner, Eva Bowles



1976-1977



ROW THREE: Dick Lindsay, Cam Legg, Doug Inglis, Dave Fontaine, John Dawson, Mike Lambert, Al Suzuki, Keith Brooksbank, Bill Massie, Ed Allen, Les Whiting, Marvin Rogers, Ron Navarro, Les Zimmerman, John Choy, Vince Lyons, Paul Allen, Harold Ball, John Thurtell, Larry Churchill

ROW FOUR: Richard Strang, Brian Humphries, Bill Van Dongen, Gene Graham, Bob Marsh, John McKinley, Dave Hewett, Bill Henderson, George Boate, John Hay, John Elsley, Roy Bass, John Walker, Stu Hurry, Ross Randall, Pat Heisler, Rafi Khan, John Burke, Ron Brown, John Gardner, Paul Langdon



From left to right:  
Carl Ritchie — Chief Custodian,  
Albert Baur — Lead Hand, Eli  
Listhaeghe — Lead Hand, Maurice  
McAuslan, Ted Paisley, Wayne  
Gilroy, Anson Hughes.

Miss Susan Brooks  
Audio-Visual Advisor



Dave Paisley  
Marion McKinley

## SPECIAL EVENTS OF THE 1970'S



Fun-d Raising  
Petrolia Arena

Hollywood - Here we come!  
Theatre Arts



Developing a Modern  
Technical "Wing"

Toga-ing Around  
Latin Class





Putting the P.M. to the test!

We can't wait to get enrolled



Homecoming

## PARADE OF CHAMPIONS



We've Got Spirit!







THE L.C.C.V.I. BAND



LIBRARY CLUB

Mary Anne (Artiss) Miller  
Marie (Neely) Zuppan

## YOU'VE COME A LONG WAY LANCERS . . .

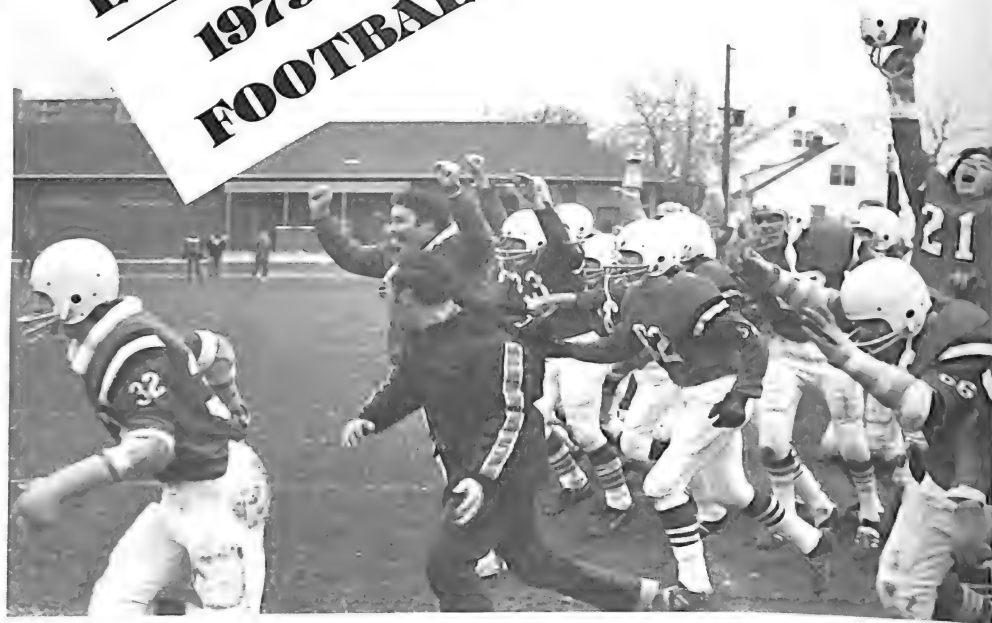
. . . and it hasn't been easy, since Lambton Central joined the tough L.S.S.A.A. (Lambton Secondary Schools Athletic Association). Previous to 1970 teams from Lambton Central were competing under the names Red Knights, Redmen, Crusaders, and Jets. In 1970 a student vote gave the LANCERS their first victory. Then followed a dedicated effort by coaching staff and students to compete effectively in L.S.S.A.A.

Successes in Track, Volleyball, and Basketball (particularly girls) came quickly. Then followed three years of dominance in Wrestling with L.C.C.V.I. capturing three L.S.S.A.A. championships, two W.O.S.S.A. championships and four All-Ontario competitors, namely, Keith Stutt, Gary Brown, Pat Daley, and Marty Leeson.

There has been a steady climb in strength of Track and Field, Cross Country, Badminton, Football, and Basketball.



### L.S.S.A.A. 1979 FOOTBALL



The Petrolia Junior Lancers won the Lambton Secondary Schools Athletic Association junior football championship in 1979 with a 13 to 6 win over the Northern Vikings in the final game played at Norm Perry Park in Sarnia. It was the first L.S.S.A.A. football championship won by L.C.C.V.I. Principal, Jim Cassin, remarked proudly, "The championship was a long time coming and we are enjoying every minute of it!". The Lancers received the Michael F. Kilby Memorial Trophy.

Junior Coaches: John Elsley, Doug Inglis, Bill Massie, and John Hay.  
Team Captains: Rick Tremblay, Roy Jacklin, and Harold Graham.

# 1984 JUNIOR BASKETBALL LANCERS WIN GOLD AA WOSSA CHAMPIONSHIPS



FRONT ROW (L-R): Alan Randall, Steve McGuire, Andrew Vandersteen, Mike Park, Paul Vandersteen, Dave Jolliffe, and Kevin Jacklin. BACK ROW: Coach Paul Allen, Richard Sitek, Mark Frankland, Martin Quinn, Dave Elsley, Dave Duquette, and Coach John Hay.



A "Changeover" of the "Heavies".  
(L-R): Bill Danylchuk, Fred McNaught, Dorothy Stevenson, Jim Cassin, Don Hunter, Mait Edgar.

Mary Alice (Tobias) Stevenson  
Norma R. Scott / The Crnkovichs



## REMINISCENCES . . . WILMA ('CHUBB') WHITING

She may be small but she's got spunk! Wilma Whiting (nicknamed "Chubb") was involved up to her ears in High School. She was on the volleyball team, basketball team, track and field, gymnastics and Student Council.

She attended L.C.C.V.I. from 1969 to 1974. "When I entered grade nine, it was compulsory for all females to wear skirts or dresses to school." Finding this not to her liking, Wilma set out to do something about it. In grade 11 she and ten friends decided to wear pants one day. Before even 9:00 they were sent to the office, lectured about following the rules and sent home to change. This was only the beginning of many changes that would be made during her years at LCCVI.



The Students' Council, at the time, was supposedly a student organization but was mainly run by the staff. They were told when they could hold activities, how much they could spend on each activity and if there was an admission, how much they could charge. "I didn't like the fact that it just acted like a vehicle of the staff. It didn't seem to matter what the students wanted."

Wilma and her colleagues argued often for changes that they felt it was time to make. Slowly but surely, the Students' Council "rose to the position of being a very useful and instrumental tool for the students."

Wilma was very active when it came to sports. While at LCCVI she was in the gymnastics team, then coached by Judy App, which participated in the All-Ontario Girls competition in Toronto.

Usually staying late for sports, Wilma often rode the late bus home. She had to walk 3 miles from the bus stop to her home. "It's a long haul in the winter in a skirt."

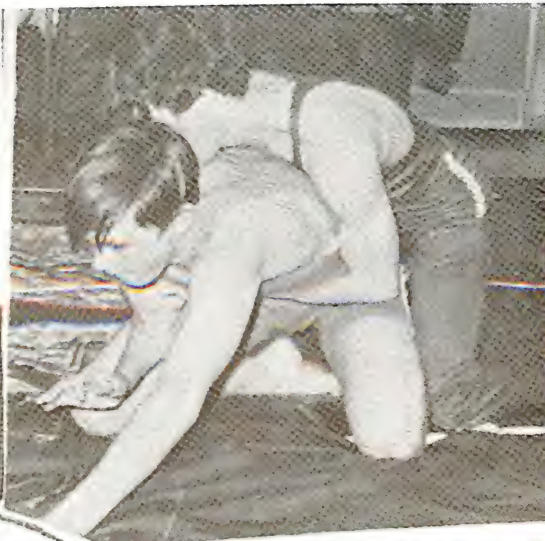
Wilma remembers the most outstanding 'special event' while she attended LCCVI as being the visit of Prime Minister Trudeau. She didn't recall much about his speech but she did get to kiss his bodyguard goodbye which "was a pretty big thrill for a kid from Oil Springs"

One would think that being so involved in extra-curricular activities it would be difficult to keep up with academics. But not for Wilma. On top of all of her activities, Wilma managed to maintain Honours throughout her High School career.

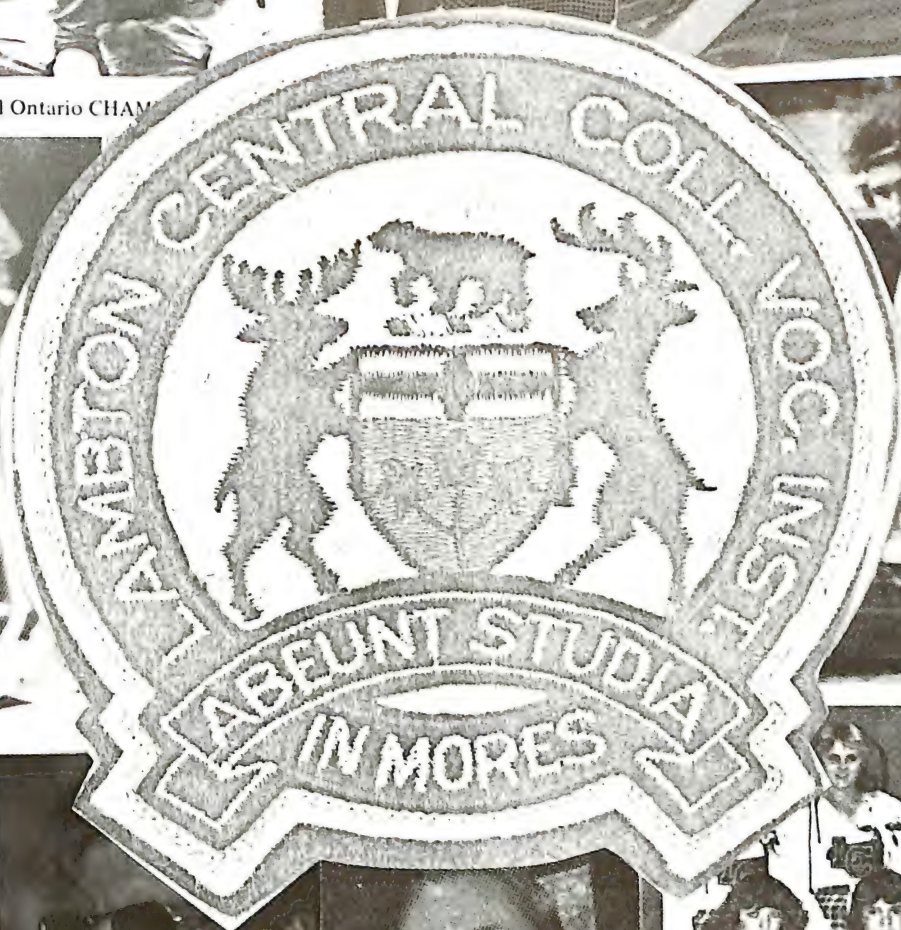
"I have never become tired of education. The more one learns, the more she appreciates how vast the unknown is, and thus desires to learn more. I will continue to wonder until my last breath. You may believe that the information you are taught in High School is worthless, but knowledge grows from it and thus it becomes priceless as the years go by."

Written by Candie Oke, 1984 LCCVI student





- The coach and his all Ontario CHAMPION



Laura J. Bishop  
Bill Newman / Margaret L. Campbell



## REMINISCENCES . . .

### BOB TOMLINSON

Many of Bob's acquaintances joined the armed forces. They were students who were not academically outstanding, but joined because it was a way of life. Mr. Tomlinson said that it was a job and a good life which he enjoyed.

The teachers of the 1940's were much the same as they are today. Some were truly dedicated to their work and cared about the educational achievements of their students. Mr. Tomlinson stated, "A good teacher was then and is now, someone who is interested in a person not only for their academic achievement but in the student as a person."

Since it was wartime and many of the male teachers were involved in the war, many women returned to teaching after their marriages and retirements. The discipline was fairly casual since there was not a large scale problem of alcohol or drugs with teenagers as there is today. Parents simply looked on teenagers as being good kids or bad kids. They did, however, have a strict principal. Mr. MacKichan was a disciplinarian.

Written by Franz Lehrbass  
1984 LCCVI student



### CAROL CHARLTON

"Oh, Betty, you've got mud all over your tartan skirt and kitten sweater."

"I know! And look at the mess of my saddleshoes! I woke up late this morning and had to run like crazy to make it to class on time."

While the above exchange between two students may seem out of place today, it would be typical in the 1950's when Carol Charlton was a student here. Tartan skirts, kitten sweaters and saddleshoes were as common as leisure pants, designer jeans and elf boots are in 1984.

Carol attended Petrolia District High School from 1953 to 1959. It was then that she really started to be recognized for her outstanding ability in sports. When she attended PDHS she excelled in all available women's sports.

Written by Patricia Lackie  
1984 LCCVI student





## REMINISCENCES . . .

### WRAY LAMB

Hula Hoops, the Beatles, or Brylcreem? When you think about the 1960's, what do you think about? Those and many more are part of the memories of Wray Lamb, a student during the 60's here at LCCVI.

Wray graduated from LCCVI in 1963, 21 years ago. At this time, they didn't have the credit system, instead they used an "AB" system. There was 3 possible course selections that you could take. In the "A" selection, you took Latin, and every other subject except shops. In the "B" selection, there you didn't take Latin, but you had the shops. There was also a special commercial option that stressed going into secretarial work.

It certainly is quite a different system than ours today. People liked it then, just as they like the credit system now. Wray took the "A" course for grade 9 and 10, and then the "B" selection for the rest of his years here.

One thing he really enjoyed was extra-curricular activities. Track and field, football and operettas were just some of the things that he did. The operettas were fairly big, using a choir, band, stage crew, actors, etc. . . . Some of the first operettas they did, like Trial By Jury. They didn't have gym AB in yet, neither did they have the big stage in there. They had to use the balcony and the upstairs dressing room area for the production. Now that's cramped quarters! That would be really challenging to make an operetta in such a relatively cramped space.

Written by Jim Randall  
1984 LCCVI student

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### DIANE EDWARDS & KEN WHITLOCK

Have you ever thought what the years and decades of your parents were like? Or have you ever thought how things have changed since before you were born? Have you ever thought how even our own school has changed and grown since twenty years ago? I have talked with Mrs. Diane Edwards (formerly McMahon) and Ken Whitlock to look for some answers to the above questions.

Right through her years at Lambton Central Mrs. Edwards credits the school for it's sense of strictness. Although Lambton Central was strict, the characteristic she liked most in a teacher was this strict attitude. She remembers Mrs. Stevenson, an especially strict teacher with fond regard. She is quoted as saying "Mrs. Stevenson was strict but good. She told kids how to do things and she knew what she was doing."

Boy's dress of that time was very much similar to that of today. It was simply pants, although jeans were almost non-existent, and sweaters. School sweaters were all the rage at that time. Cars were a big fad too. If you had a car in the 60's you were bound to have lots of friends as well as girls. These cars seemed sleek even though they looked box-shaped.

Written by John Edwards  
1984 LCCVI student



## REMINISCENCES . . .

### JOHN KLAPAK

John Klapak, a 1967 Graduate of LCCVI is grateful that he finished school before the advent of the credit system and he now feels that the multiplicity of choices would have bewildered him.

John attended LCCVI during the period of the Robarts Plan and came through the technical stream. Since John had contemplated farming full-time, he found that the courses he took here were not directly connected with work. Yet, his technical diploma gave him ready access to Polysar when he decided to supplement his income.

While some may feel that John's total involvement in academic or commercial students, such was not the case. Through his involvement in track and field and wrestling, John felt himself as much in the mainstream as all the other students.

John feels that the students regard adults much the way they do now and that the students idea of fun hasn't changed much, but that it is easier to get alcohol and drugs than it was then.

John defines a good teacher as one who would keep you on the track of the subject and one who did not make the work too hard to comprehend, in terms of language. On the finishing end of this interview, he did not have to eat cafeteria food and this could contest to successful life, eh?

Written by John Dawson  
1984 LCCVI student

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### LINDA SMITH

. . . Of the many other extra-curricular activities in the school, Linda enjoyed taking part in Cheerleading, I.S.C.F., Debating and the Library Club. She was an active member of the cheerleading squad and, from other sources, we discovered she was very good at cheering. The I.S.C.F. was a Christian group.

Dances were held once a month and each usually had a certain theme such as the Sadie Hawkins dance. One difference between our dances and those of Linda's was that girls and guys tended to come in separate groups and dance in these groups. Guys who did wish to pair with a girl might have joined a phenomenon known as the "Stag Line". This consisted of guys who circled the dance floor searching for that special girl to dance with.

The sixties was a period of youth protest and this was somewhat evident in the high school. Boys in earlier years who didn't have their hair above the ears were sent home immediately to have it cut. However, defiance to hair length began to occur, as did objection to the dress code. Dresses which are rarely seen today, were a must. Adults who viewed these teens as rebellious and troublemakers were called "square".

Linda received her grade thirteen education and continued on to become a teacher. High school brings back special memories to her as I hope it does to me, once I have finished.

Written by Steve Rumford  
1984 LCCVI student



# CENTENNIAL REUNION

## EVENTS

FRIDAY, MAY 18, 1984

2:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m.

Registration

Informal Reunions

6:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m.

Staff & Former Staff Dinner

Petrolia Legion

8:00 p.m.-12:00 p.m.

Wine & Cheese Party V.P.P.

SATURDAY, MAY 19, 1984

9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

Registration

Viewing of Displays

Reunions by Decades

12:30 p.m.-1:30 p.m.

Callithumpian Reunion Parade

2:00 p.m.-3:00 p.m.

Official Opening Ceremonies

Centennial Track Dedication

4:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m.

Beef Bar-B-Que,

Greenwood Park

9:00 p.m.-1:00 a.m.

Dance, Petrolia & Enniskillen

Community Arena

SUNDAY, MAY 20, 1984

8:30 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

Viewing of Displays

8:30 a.m.-10:30 a.m.

Breakfast - L.C.C.V.I.

11:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

Ecumenical Church Service

Bradshaw Hall - L.C.C.V.I.

12:00 p.m.-1:00 p.m.

Birthday Cake & Coffee

## REUNION COMMITTEE

Wm. Massie ..... Program  
L. Churchill ..... Program  
J. Elsley ..... Program  
Wm. Palmer ..... Finance  
M. Cashabeck ..... Secretary  
S. Hewett ..... Yearbook  
Wm. Park ..... Publicity  
D. Stevenson ..... Registration  
R. Purves ..... History

# YEARBOOK STAFF

"Thanks for the memories"



John Burke

Shannon Inglis

Sheila Hewett

Paul & Lois Marley

Elaine Thompson

Ron Gregory

Betty Hackett

Beth Crockard

Becky Campbell

Joan Williams

Shirley Metcalfe

Randolph Thomson

Shirley Cuthbertson

Buster & Jean Dalziel  
Dorie Parker Lois Turner

Mait Edgar

Jim Hillier

Ken Melton, Helen Snelgrove, Linda Smith, Jennifer Weed

# Thanks

A special thank you for the loan of pictures, memorabilia clippings, and other information to:

Ross & Marguerite Stephenson  
Blanche (Peer) Winter  
John Elsley  
Jack Kerby  
Beatrice Hands  
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Joyce Trapp  
Velma Anderson  
Marjory Huddlestone  
F. Brohman  
Marg Green  
Betty (Jay) Giuliano  
Elaine Thompson  
Colleen Bradley  
Bill McLean  
Janet Bradley  
William Bradshaw  
Mary Scott  
Dorothy Stevenson  
Marion McKinley  
Pat Traichevich  
Betty Hackett  
Marian C. McCrea

Bertha Gleeson  
Hilda M. Canton  
Jim Pederson  
Fred Stonehouse  
J. Cassin  
Leslie McDonald  
Charlie McEwen  
Evelyn Hibbert  
Harry Barnes  
Helen Dew  
R. Purves  
Wilson Rose  
Louise Polley  
R. Howlett  
Charles Whipp  
Joyce Prevett  
Petrolia Advertiser Topic  
Randolph Thomson  
Eric Vankeulen  
Eleanor Roane  
Bill Anderson  
Eleanor Parr  
W. Danylchuk

To Susan Brooks for her time and expertise in photography.

To John Burke and his Enrichment Class.

To Ariel Lyons and art students, Carla Huctwith and Krista Johanson.

To Carol Nisbet, and Carla Huctwith for their poetry.

To Mrs. Lennon and typists: Janice Mathers, Ruth Ann Lane, Lorrie McDonald, Trudy Butler, Jodie Moore.

# Autographs

1984

Celebration, Rejuvenation  
Laughing, Crying, Reminiscing  
Old Memories, New Feelings  
Centennial







SHL  
8ED-